4

Handa-kun

SATSUKI YOSHINO

Handa-Kun

Volume Four

SATSUKI YOSHINO

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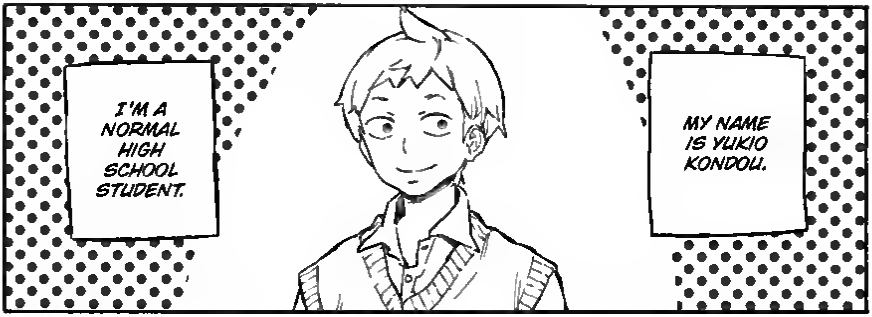
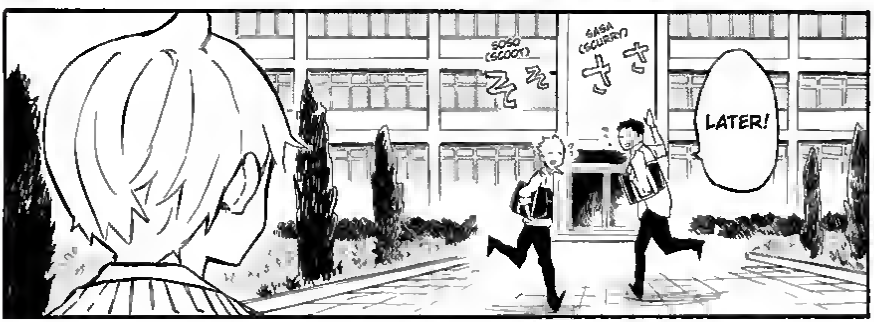

I'M A NORMAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT.
MY NAME IS YUKIO KONDOU.

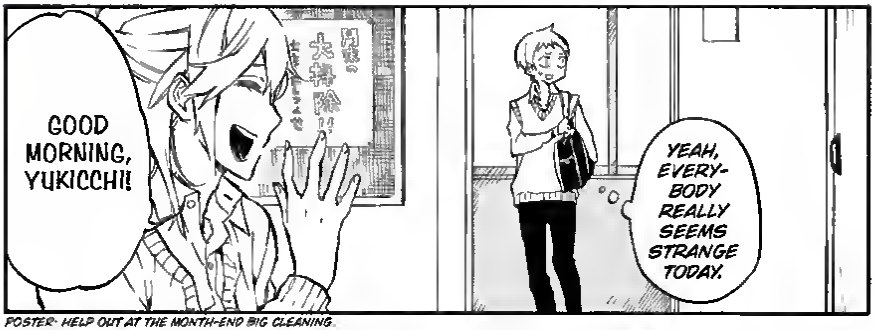
I LEAD A NICE, NORMAL SCHOOL LIFE.
I GET ALONG WELL WITH MY FEW FRIENDS.
GOOD MORN-ING!
I'M AVERAGE IN BOTH ACADEMICS AND ATHLETICS.

GOOD MORN-ING.
Y-YEAH.

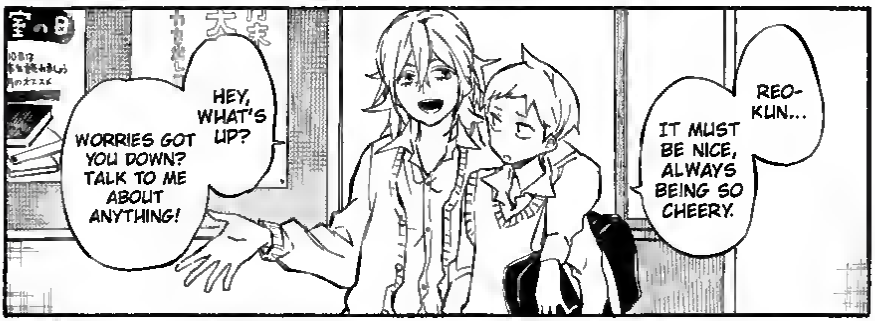

SOSO (SCOOT)
GASA (SQUIRM)
LATER!

THEY WERE SO DISTANT JUST NOW...
!?
WHAT WAS THAT?
HANDA-KUN...
HANDA-KUN!

HEY.
DID I DO SOME-THING?
Don't Run in the Hall
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "DULL"?
YOU'RE SURE LOOKING DULL AGAIN TODAY.
GOOD MORNING, YUKI-KUN.
THOSE GUYS ARE HERE TO CHECK OUT HANDA-SAN AGAIN.
THEY'RE ALWAYS SO STEELY-EYED.
HA-HA-HA! LOOKING AT YOU?
IT'S LIKE THEY'RE LOOKING AT...
UH...
HM? WHAT'S WRONG?
OH, NEVER MIND.

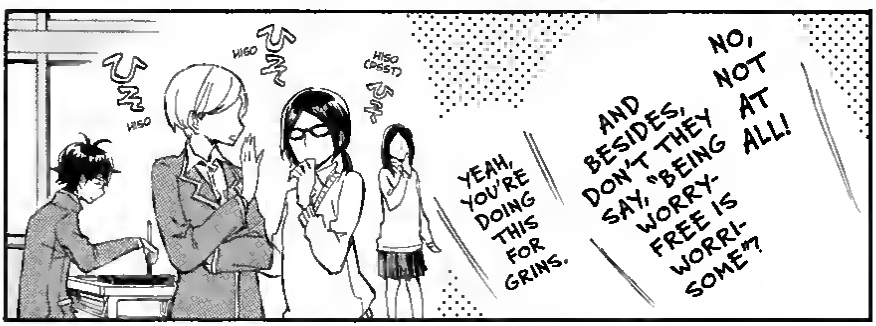


POSTER: HELP OUT AT THE MONTH-END BIG CLEANING.

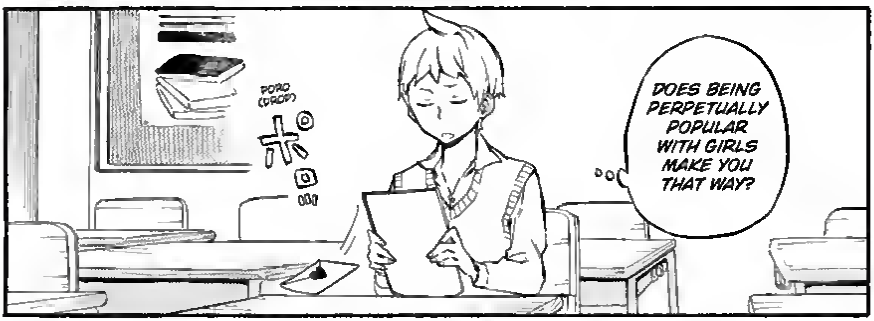


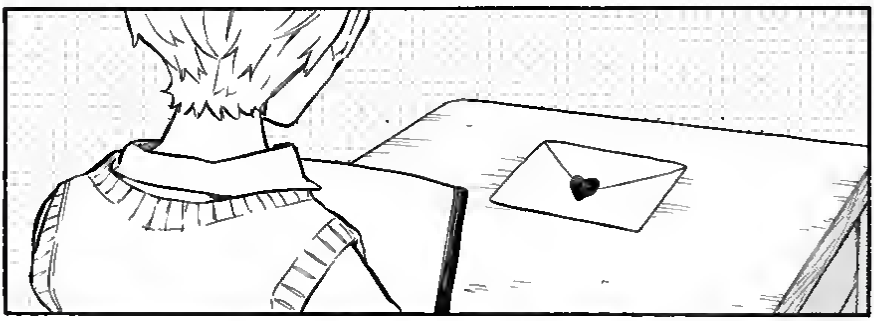
POSTER: LIBRARY DAY IS ON THE 10TH. COME AND READ A BOOK. THIS MONTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS

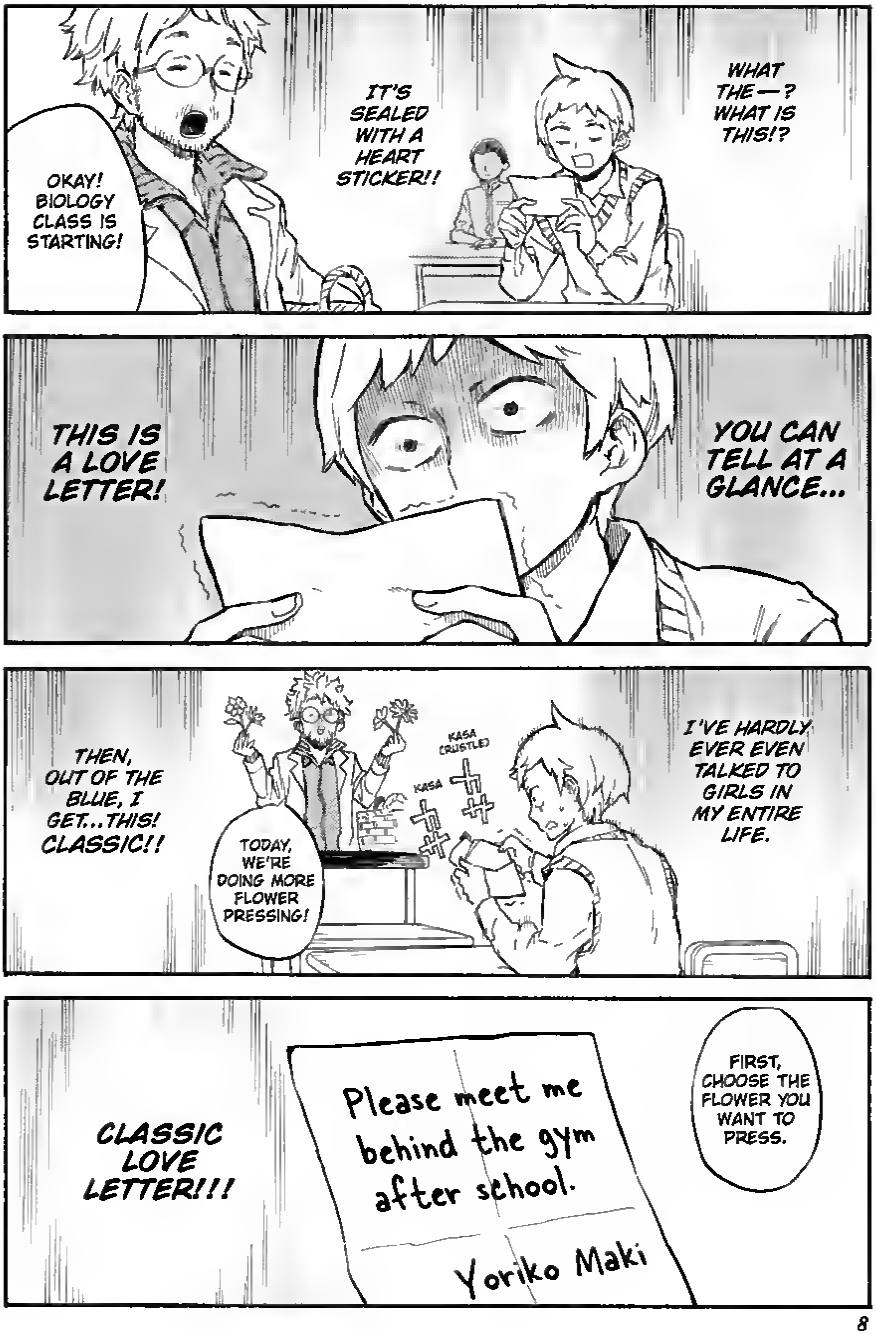
THIS IS FOR YOU GUYS' AMUSEMENT, ISN'T IT?
AFTER SCHOOL, I'LL GATHER EVERY-BODY AT THE HHH (HANDA HIDDEN HEAD-QUARTERS) TO DISCUSS IT.



POSTERS: SOCCER CLUB MEETING — MATCH, PREFECTURAL TOURNAMENT

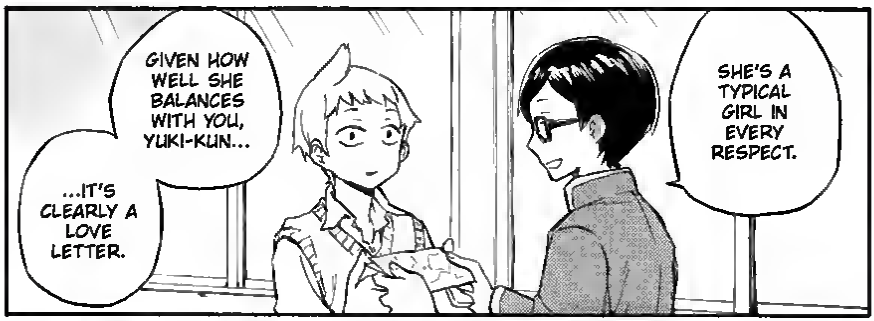





OKAY! BIOLOGY CLASS IS STARTING!
IT'S SEALED WITH A HEART STICKER!!
WHAT THE—? WHAT IS THIS!?
THIS IS A LOVE LETTER!
YOU CAN TELL AT A GLANCE...
THEN, OUT OF THE BLUE, I GET...THIS! CLASSIC!!
TODAY, WE'RE DOING MORE FLOWER PRESSING!
KASA (RUSTLE)
KASA
I'VE HARDLY EVER EVEN TALKED TO GIRLS IN MY ENTIRE LIFE.
CLASSIC LOVE LETTER!!!
Please meet me behind the gym after school.
Yoriko Maki
FIRST, CHOOSE THE FLOWER YOU WANT TO PRESS.

WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH SUCH A... LOVE-LETTERY LETTER?
PLACE THE WEIGHT ON TOP...
...AND PRESS IT FOR ABOUT A WEEK.
DO I ASK REO-KUN FOR ADVICE?
NO, I CAN'T!! IT'S RUDE TO SHOW A LOVE LETTER TO SOMEONE ELSE.
STILL, IT'S NOT NECESSARILY A LOVE LETTER.
BUT IF IT'S NOT A LOVE LETTER, THEN IT MUST BE...
KONDOU-KUN, WHAT WOULD YOU USE PRESSED FLOWERS FOR?
A POST-CARD? A BOOK-MARK?
... HARASS-MENT.
WHAA—!?
UH!
AH, I SEE... HARASSMENT BY PRESSED FLOWERS, HUH?
THAT'S A NEW ONE...
NO!! THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT JUST NOW!!
YUKICCHI'S SO SILLY.

YEAH, I SEE.
A LOVE LETTER, HUH?
...I JUST CAN'T WRAP MY NORMAL BRAIN AROUND IT.
IT'S NO GOOD. WHETHER IT'S A LOVE LETTER OR HARASS-MENT...
HATE TO TELL YOU THIS, YUKI...
KOSO (SNEAK)
KOSO
...I FIGURED YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE I CAN ASK FOR ADVICE.
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT...
WHAA!?
BUT IT WAS SEALED WITH A HEART STICKER!
POI (PLING)
GUGHA (CRUMPLE)
...BUT THIS AIN'T A LOVE LETTER. IT'S A CHALLENGE LETTER.
STOP, TSUKKUN! THAT'S WAY TMI!!
LAST YEAR, THEY USED THAT SAME TRICK TO CALL ME OUT, THEN TOOK MY CLOTHES AND REAMED ME WITH A—



POSTER CULTURE EXHIBIT

HE'D NEVER PASS UP GOSSIP ABOUT HANDA ARMY ANTICS.
REO-KUN, WHEN DID YOU...!?
HEY, WHAT'S UP?
HAS SPRINGTIME FINALLY COME FOR YUKICCHI?

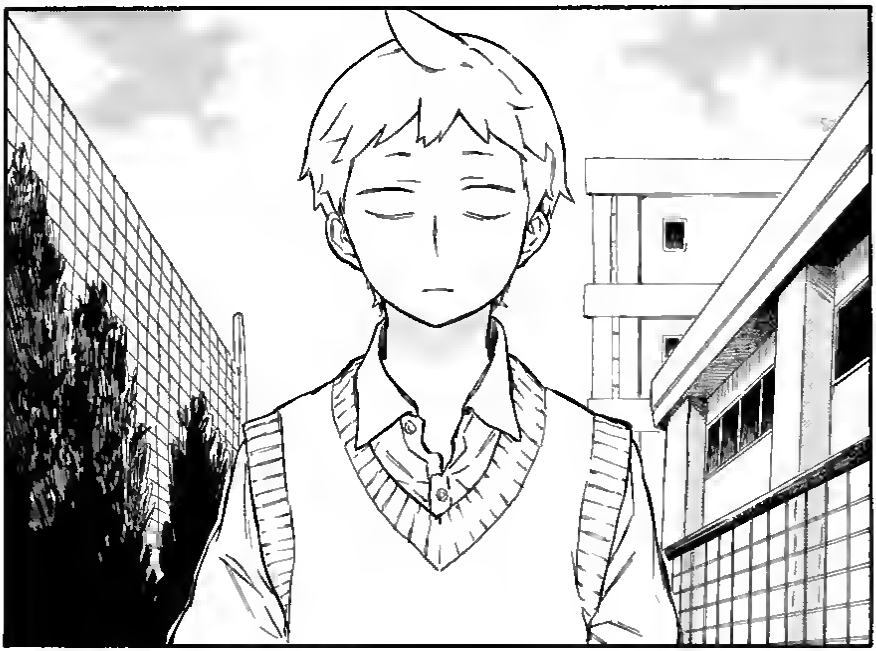
文化展
WE'LL TOAST TO YOU AT THE HHH TODAY.
COME ON! NOTHING'S DEFINITE YET.
PAPA (FLIP)
THIS IS BORING. LET'S MAKE LOVE OFF-LIMITS TO THE HANDA ARMY.
AWW, BUT I'VE GOT THREE HUNDRED GIRLFRIENDS!
LIAR!
BUT IF THE GIRL IN QUESTION IS BORING...
THAT'S SO LIKE YOU, YUKICCHI!
AH HA HA HA HA HA!
HEY! ARE YOU CALLING ME LAME!?
FLOWER PRESSING'S ACTUALLY KIND OF FUN...

LET'S GO WITH A ROMANTIC REPLY.
WHAA—? YOU WILL?
GUI (TUG)
GUI
...I'LL HAVE TO GIVE YOU A COOL HAIRSTYLE.
BEFORE YOU GO MEET HER...
ISN'T THAT A BIT TOO PRETENTIOUS?
HOW DOES THAT STRIKE YOU?
...AND WRITE "EMOTION."
TAKE THE PRESSED-FLOWER POSTCARD YOU MADE IN BIOLOGY CLASS...
AHHAHAHAHA!
HEY!
THAT'S TOO HALF-ASSED!!
キモチ♡
emotion
ALL RIGHT, I'LL DO IT!
THE MORE YOU CAN READ INTO IT, THE BETTER
THAT'S GREAT!
I KNOW, RIGHT?
AH!
HISO
HISO
HISO (PSST)

THIS IS WHY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SO STAND-OFFISH.
SO THAT'S IT.
RIGHT NOW, I'M PART OF THE POPULAR HANDA ARMY CLIQUE.
Please meet me behind the gym after school.
Yoriko Maki
...I EVEN GOT A GIRL-FRIEND (I ASSUME).
EVEN WITH AVERAGE LOOKS...
ENVY...
JEALOUSY...

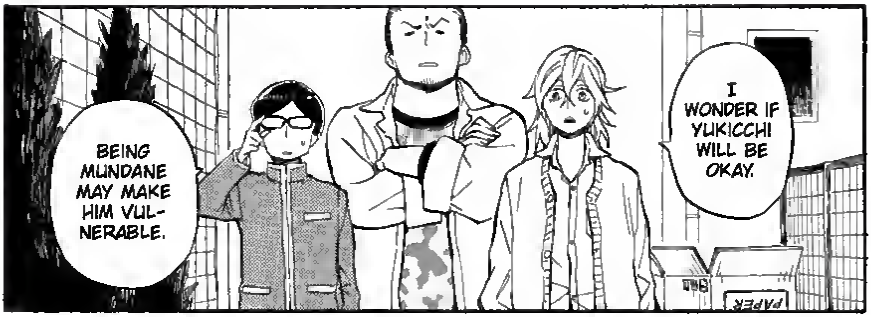
I USED TO BE A NORMAL DUCKLING...
...BUT WITH HANDA-KUN...
...I'M ABOUT TO BECOME A SWAN!

QUIT ACTING LIKE A HANDA ARMY BIG SHOT.
YOU'RE JUST NORMAL.

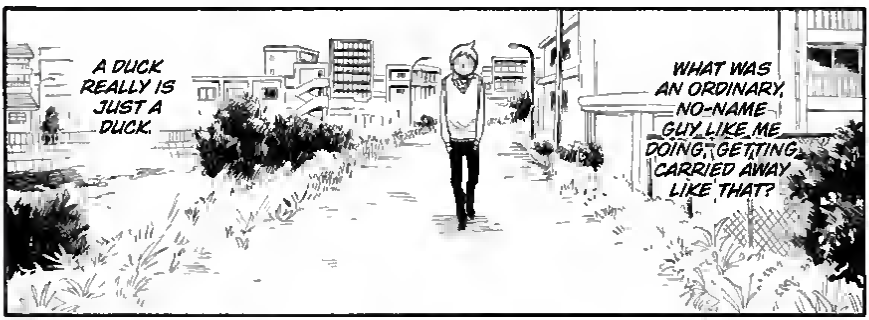


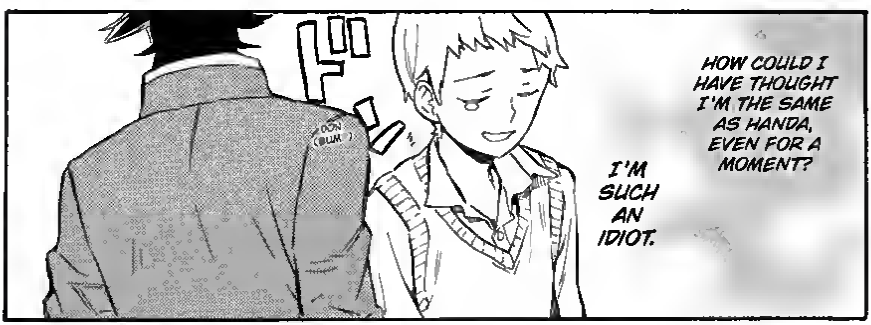
THAT'S ALL. LATER!
LET'S GET GOING, YORI-YORI.
TOILET PAPER
TOILET PAPER
HEART STICKERS WIELDED BY GIRLS ARE VICIOUS.
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE GOT DUMPED BEFORE DOING ANY-THING.
WHAT DO WE DO?
...THE HANDA ARMY IS ON YOUR SIDE.
NO MATTER WHAT A GIRL LIKE THAT SAYS...
CHEER UP, YUKICCHI!

IT DIDN'T WORK OUT.
I SHOULD'VE KNOWN. IT'S NOT LIKE A REGULAR GUY LIKE ME WOULD GET ASKED OUT LIKE IN A SCHOOL-LIFE MANGA.
YUKI-CCHI...
HEH HEH.
YEAH, I'M FINE.
THIS WAS... JUST...
YOU OKAY?
YUKI-KUN!
HE'S NOT FINE AT ALL!
DA CUASHO
I'M JUST FINE!


BEING MUNDANE MAY MAKE HIM VULNERABLE.
I WONDER IF YUKICCHI WILL BE OKAY.
PAPER

SIGH...
LET'S GIVE CHASE AND CONSOLE HIM.


A DUCK REALLY IS JUST A DUCK.
WHAT WAS AN ORDINARY, NO-NAME GUY LIKE ME DOING, GETTING CARRIED AWAY LIKE THAT?


ドン
(BUM)
HOW COULD I HAVE THOUGHT I'M THE SAME AS HANDA, EVEN FOR A MOMENT?
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT.

!?
NO...
OH!
I'M VERY SORRY!

HANDA-KUN!
IT WAS MY FAULT...

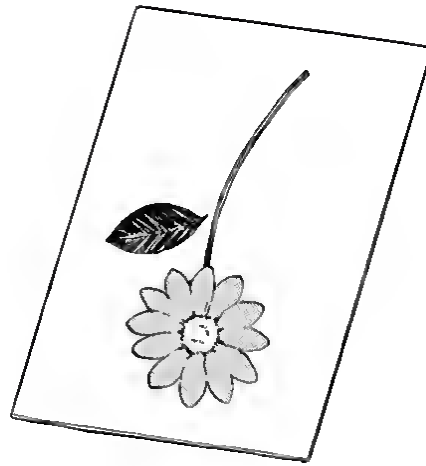
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OVER HERE?
THE FIRST ONE I EVER TALKED TO!
OH! ONE OF MY CLASS-MATES.
ARE THOSE FOR FLOWER-PRESSING?
REALLY?
I WOULDN'T DO SOME-THING SO GIRLIE!
THESE ARE...
BUT—
GA (TENGE)
KAAAA (CLUSH)
NO! THEY'RE NOT!
THAT'S WHAT I BLURTED OUT...
...GOING TO BE USED FOR HARASS-MENT!

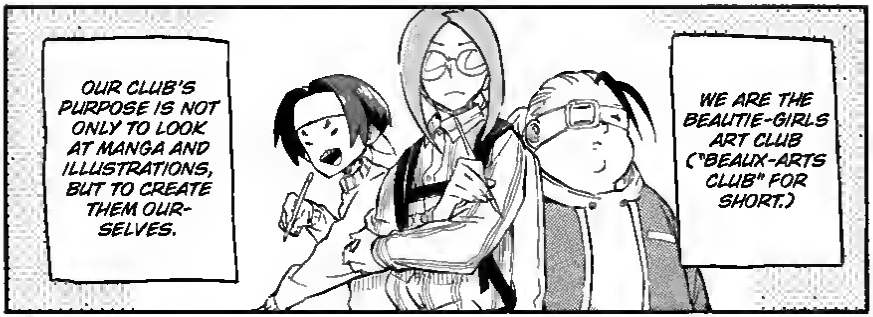
UH, NO! LIKE I SAID, THEY'RE FOR HARASS-MENT!
I HOPE THEY COME OUT NICE.
WHY'S THIS GUY SAYING STUFF HE DOESN'T REALLY MEAN?
HANDA-KUN'S ALSO BEEN AFFECTED BY THE WAY OTHERS SEE HIM...
HONEST, I MEAN IT...
SHUN (WILD)
OR MAYBE THAT'S WHY HE JUST GOES WITH THE FLOW.
HANDA-KUN...
...EVEN THOUGH HE'S ACTUALLY SHY AND INTROVERTED.
EH!?
HERE, HAVE THIS ONE.
JUST LIKE ME...

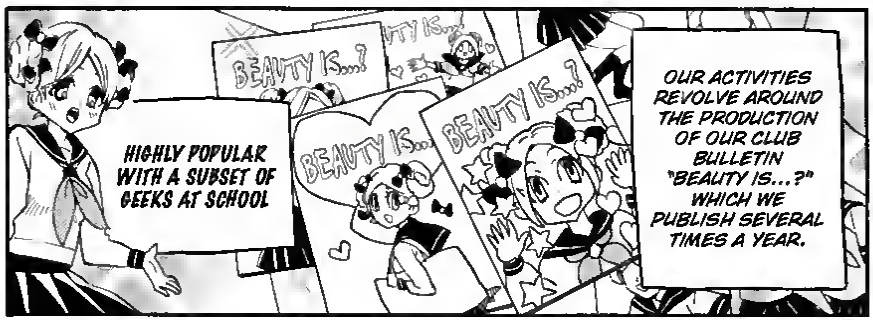
UH!
WAIT!
LATER!
SEE YOU IN CLASS!
THANK YOU...
...VERY...
...MUCH.
I WON'T BE LEAVING THE HANDA ARMY.
YOU'RE VERY WELCOME.

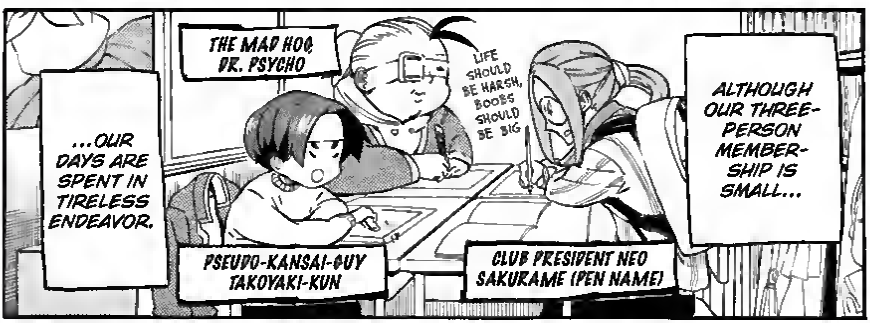
THERE YOU ARE!
YUKI-CCHI!
SORRY, GUYS.
HAVE YOU CALMED DOWN A BIT?
DON'T WORRY US LIKE THAT.
NOT THAT I RECALL JOINING THIS ARMY IN THE FIRST PLACE...
...I JUST CAN'T IGNORE HANDA-KUN.
BUT SOME-HOW...
LET'S HEAD BACK.
HE GAVE ME THIS!
FM (FLIP)

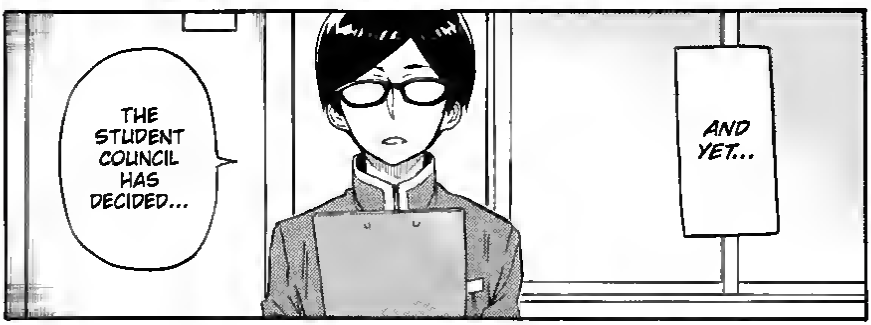
キモイ
emo
THE GAP ONLY WORSENED.
IS THIS THE PINNACLE OF PRESSED-FLOWER HARASSMENT!?




OUR CLUB'S PURPOSE IS NOT ONLY TO LOOK AT MANGA AND ILLUSTRATIONS, BUT TO CREATE THEM OURSELVES.
WE ARE THE BEAUTIE-GIRLS ART CLUB ("BEAUX-ARTS CLUB" FOR SHORT.)


HIGHLY POPULAR WITH A SUBSET OF GEEKS AT SCHOOL
BEAUTY IS...?
BEAUTY IS...
BEAUTY IS...?
OUR ACTIVITIES REVOLVE AROUND THE PRODUCTION OF OUR CLUB BULLETIN "BEAUTY IS...?" WHICH WE PUBLISH SEVERAL TIMES A YEAR.


...OUR DAYS ARE SPENT IN TIRELESS ENDEAVOR.
THE MAD HOG DR. PSYCHO
LIFE SHOULD BE HARSH, BOOBS SHOULD BE BIG
ALTHOUGH OUR THREE-PERSON MEMBERSHIP IS SMALL...
PSEUDO-KANSAI-GUY TAKOYAKI-KUN
CLUB PRESIDENT NEO SAKURAME (PEN NAME)


THE STUDENT COUNCIL HAS DECIDED...
AND YET...

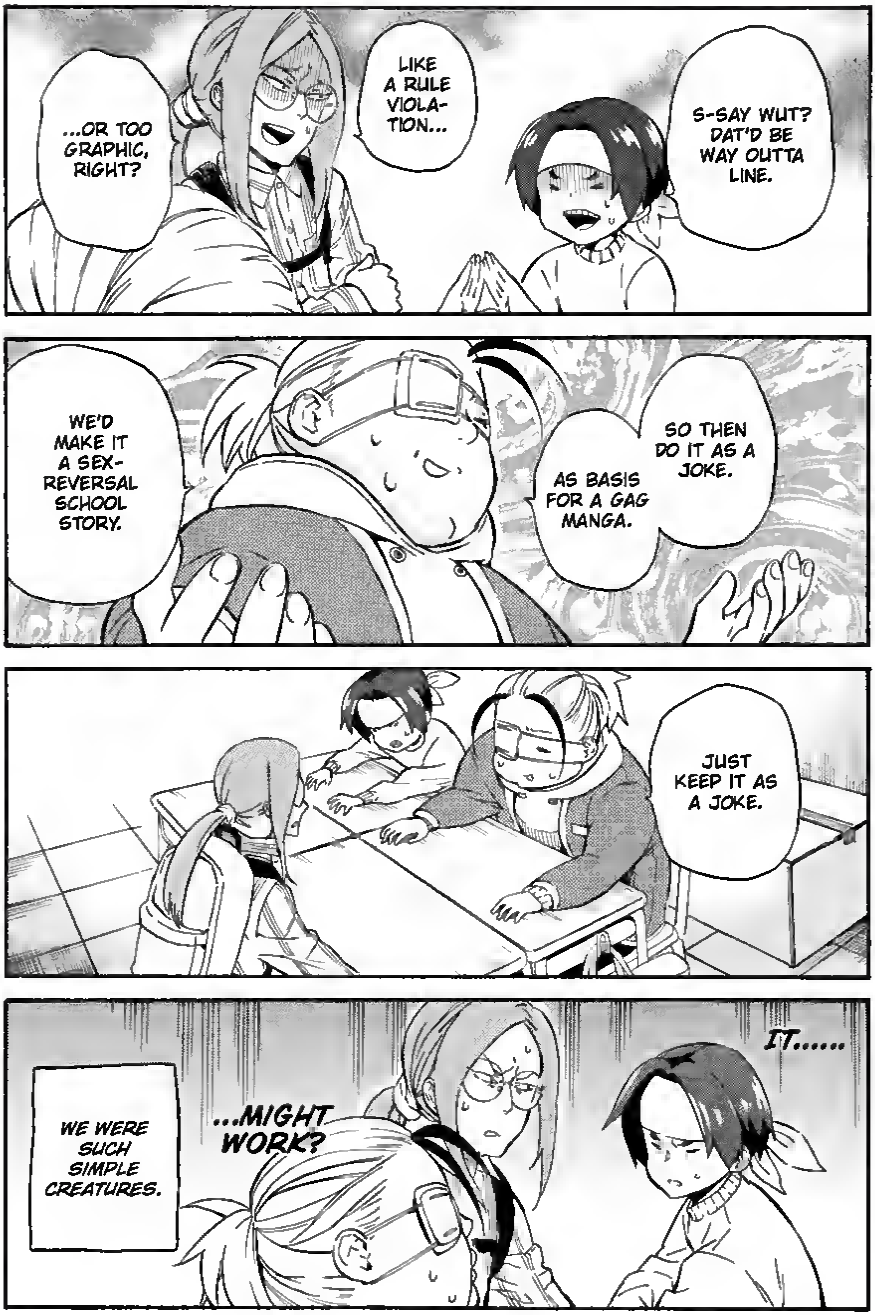
...THAT THE BEAUX-ARTS CLUB IS TO BE ABOLISHED THIS TERM.
DAMN IT! ARE WE LOWLY SUBJECTS POWERLESS IN THE FACE OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY!?
YOU GOUGE OUT MY HEART, 'LO!
DIS SUCKS! DIS SUCKS!
DIS SUCKS! DIS SUCKS!
...WE ABRUPTLY FOUND OURSELVES UNDER SIEGE!

GIVE US DA REASON!
WHY!?
WHY MUST THE EMPIRE BE SO LACKING IN MERCY!?
DAMN IT! YOU HAVE GONE TOO FAR, ACCURSED DOG OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL!!
DIS SUCKS!
THAT IS ALL.
THE REASON: "IT IS A WASTE TO PROVIDE CLUB FUNDS FOR USE ON PERSONAL HOBBIES WITH NO BENEFIT TO THE SCHOOL."
WHA —!?
WHY NOT MAKE A CLUB BULLETIN THAT SELLS WELL?
IF YOU CAN FIND A WAY TO RAISE FUNDS YOURSELVES, THEN YOUR CLUB MAY DO AS IT LIKES.
THEN WHY SO MUCH LEFTOVER STOCK?
Beauty is...?
DOSE IN DA KNOW KNOW BETTER!
ARE YOU SAYING OUR CLUB BULLETIN DOESN'T SELL!?

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW TOUGH IT IS TO MAKE MANGA THAT'LL SELL!?
I CONCLUDE YOU'VE NEVER DRAWN ANY, 'LO!
GET OUTTA HERE!
HRMM ...
YOU CERTAINLY ARE IN A BIND.
THOUGH I DON'T HAVE A MILLIGRAM OF INTEREST IN YOUR MANGA...
...I DO KNOW OF A MANGA SUBJECT THAT I'LL CERTAINLY BUY.
EH?
WHAT'S DIS DEN?
Student Council Sanguine Decision
The Way of Club Activity
IF THE MANGA HAS HANDA-KUN AS THE LEAD...
...THEN EVERYONE WOULD BUY IT!
TH—
THAT MAKES SENSE!!
WELL, NOT THAT I KNOW IF HE'D AGREE TO IT.

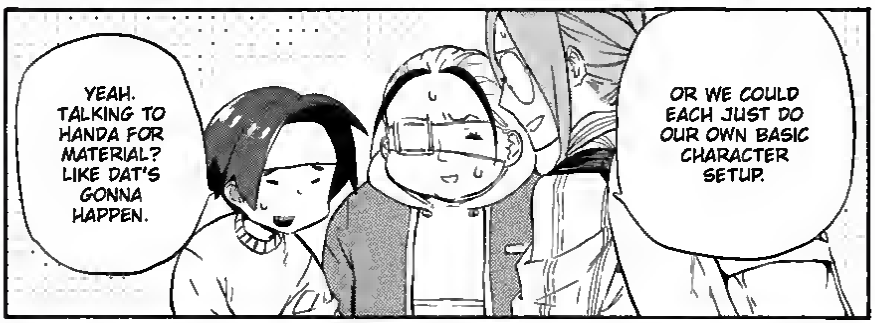
WELL, YES.
YOU'RE TELLING US, THE BEAUTIE-GIRLS ART CLUB, TO DRAW A MAN, 'LO!?
B—
BUT THAT MEANS ...
A MANGA WITH A MAN AS DA MAIN? PREPOSTEROUS PEDESTRIAN!
DRAWING BEAUTIE-GIRLS IS OUR UNWAVERING CREED!!
BAAN (SLAM)
.....
GET OUT!
WE CANNOT FATHOM SUCH A THING!
WE SAID LEAVE!
...SO GET THAT STOCKPILE IN ORDER.
THE PAPER RECYCLING TRUCK IS COMING NEXT WEEK...

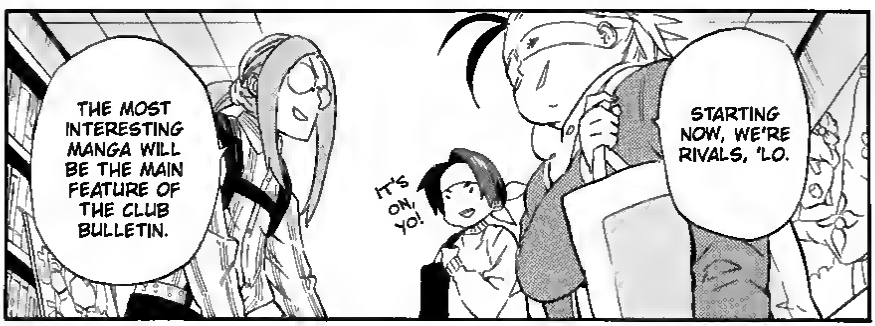
...WHAT NOW?
SO...
DESPERATE TIMES CALL FOR DESPERATE MEASURES!
DON (BAM)
THAT GOES AGAINST THE BEAUX-ARTS CLUB CREED!
IF WE FOLLOW DA DEVIL'S ADVICE...
...AND DRAW HANDA, WE'D PROB'LY GET FUNDS...?
HM? WHAT IS IT, DR.?
UH, SAY...
(GO (MENACE)
...IF WE DREW HANDA HIMSELF AS A BEAUTIE-GIRL?
MAYBE IT'D WORK...


S-SAY WUT? DAT'D BE WAY OUTTA LINE.
LIKE A RULE VIOLA-TION...
...OR TOO GRAPHIC, RIGHT?
SO THEN DO IT AS A JOKE.
AS BASIS FOR A GAG MANGA.
WE'D MAKE IT A SEX-REVERSAL SCHOOL STORY.
JUST KEEP IT AS A JOKE.
IT.....
...MIGHT WORK?
WE WERE SUCH SIMPLE CREATURES.

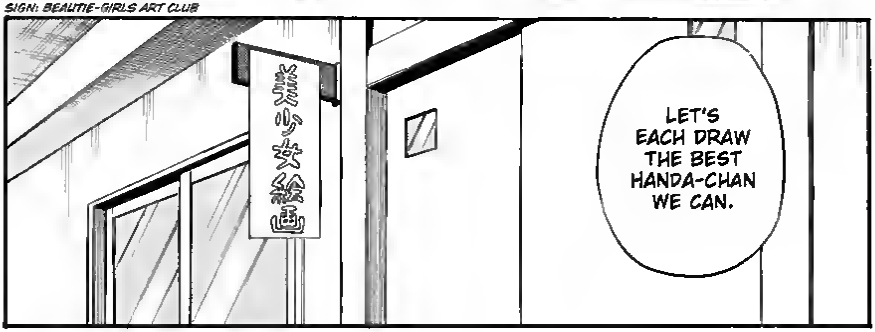
SEARCH ME.
I'VE NEVER COME IN CONTACT WIF SOMEONE DAT POPULAR.
KATA (RATTLE)
カタ
カタ
KATA
...WHAT KIND OF CHARACTER WOULD HE BE?
BUT, ASSUMING THAT HANDA'S THE PROTAG...
Cold Character
キュ
KYU (SQUEAK)
キュ
KYU
SINCE HE'S ALWAYS ALONE, WOULDN'T SHE BE THE COLD TYPE, 'LO?
You must not overexert yourself.
SINCE HE'S LEVEL-HEADED, DAT MEANS SHE'D BE POLITE AND FORMAL.
You mustn't overdo it!
...SO WOULDN'T SHE BE A WARM, BIG-SISTER TYPE?
NO, I HEARD HE'S VERY WARM-HEARTED...
SHE'S VERY INCONSISTENT ...
O Speaks very deferentially, but is boastful
.*. or perhaps boyish?
@ Very Japanese, but just back from living abroad
O Solitary, but has many friends
@ Cold, but a good speaker!!!
@ An only child, but like a big sister
O Capable of anything, but a bit of a ~~klutz~~ ditz
Focus Point
HRMM...

IT LOOKS LIKE...
Cold, but a good speaker!!!
Speaks very decorously, but is beautiful if a bit on the boyish side?
Very Japanese, but just back from living abroad
...WE'LL HAVE TO TALK TO HIM.
.....





SIGN: BEAUTIE-GIRLS ART CLUB



...IN ORDER TO DRAW THE MOST INTERESTING MANGA, IT'S NECESSARY TO TALK TO THE ACTUAL PERSON.
...THAT SAID...
BUT WHAT I LACK, I CAN JUST CREATE!
STILL, I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING I'D HAVE IN COMMON WITH HANDA.
...OR TO BE HANDSOME AND POPULAR DESPITE THEIR GEEKINESS.
RECENTLY, SOME GEEKS HAVE MANAGED TO SLIP IN AMONG THE ORDINARY POPULACE...
I'M SURE THAT HANDA IS ONE SUCH.

HELLO THERE! ☆
I AM MAGICAL MAID MELINA!
RECITE A SPELL WITH ME, 'KAY?
A PLASTIC DOLL SPOKE TO ME!
MAS-TUR?
NOW, TAKE THE BAIT, HANDA!!

MASTUR!
SHOULD I ANSWER?
THIS... MUST BE ONE OF THOSE...
...CASES OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY.
GOT HIM!
WH—
WHY ARE YOU SO SKIMPILY DRESSED...?
WHOA... IT ANSWERED ...!!
TH—
THIS IS JUST HOW I AM, GOT IT!?

H-HUH... SO THAT'S JUST HOW YOU ARE?
OH CRAP... FOR A MOMENT, I STARTED FEELING LIKE, "WHAT THE HELL AM I DOING!?"
EH!?
MASTUR, HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT ME?
RIGHT NOW, I HAVE TO MELD COMPLETELY WITH MELINA-CHAN TO MAKE HANDA'S ACQUAINTANCE.
BUT I DON'T WANT TO BE RUDE TO WHOEVER'S CONTROLLING IT...
...IS PRETTY TERRIFY-ING.
GETTING ASKED THAT BY A DOLL I'VE JUST MET...
T-TERRIF-ied...?
UH...
UHH...

WHEW... I DON'T GET WHY, BUT AT LEAST IT'S HAPPY.
SUN
OH, YOU!
SILLY MASTUR!
SUN (WAVE)
OOOO! YOU THINK I'M TERRIFIC! ☆
OTAKU INTERPRETATION
HEH-HEH-HEH. JUST AS I THOUGHT, EVEN HANDA FINDS MELINA-CHAN TERRIFIC.
...I'LL REVEAL MELINA'S SECRET!
JUST FOR YOU, MASTUR...
ALL RIGHT, NOW TO GIVE HIM A LITTLE... EXTRA.
...REMOVE MY SKIRT. ♡
YOU MAY...

WITH THIS REMOVABLE SKIRT, I'LL EXPOSE HANDA'S HIDDEN PERVYNESS.
HURRY UP AND UNDRESS ME!
GO ON!
GO ON!
HANDA'S JUST A MAN TOO.
UN-DRESS ME, QUICK!
UN-DRESS ME!
EVEN ONE WHO'S USUALLY CALM AND COMPOSED IS NO MATCH FOR MELINA-CHAN'S CHARMS!
PASAA (RUSTLE)
GASP!

EVEN IF YOU'RE A DOLL...
KYU (TIE)
キュッ
...I DON'T THINK A GIRL SHOULD SAY THINGS LIKE THAT.
DISCARD THE HAND-KERCHIEF IF YOU LIKE.
BUT NEXT TIME, PLAY WITH SOMEONE PROPER.
"SOMEONE PROPER"...
JUST NOT ME.

...I'VE TREATED MY BELOVED BRIDE, MELINA-CHAN, AS IF SHE WERE A HARLOT.
IN ALL MY TEN-PLUS YEARS AS A GEEK...
NEVER, NEVER AGAIN WILL I EMBARRASS YOU IN THIS WAY.
I'M SORRY, MELINA-CHAN.
I WILL...
...DEFINITELY...
GYU! (SQUEEZE)
THANK YOU FOR SHOWING ME THE LIGHT, HANDA-KUN.
YIKES!
THAT WAS SCARY...
...DRAW A MANGA BEFITTING YOU.

ONE WEEK LATER
WELL, THEN...
"Handa-chan is...?"
...SHALL WE EACH PRESENT THE MANGA WE DREW?
OKAY, I'LL START, 'LO!
OH-HO, YOU'RE QUITE MOTIVATED, DR. PSYCHO.
IT'S A CLICHÉD INTRO...
...BUT IT STARTS WITH THE PROTAGONIST AND HANDA-CHAN RUNNING INTO EACH OTHER AS THEY TURN THE CORNER, 'LO.
OOH, NICE!
GOING THAT ROUTE, HUH?
USING SOME-THING CLICHÉD LIKE DAT...
...LETS YA AVOID DETAILED EXPLANA-TIONS.
URGH!

YOU CAN SEE HANDA-CHAN'S PANTIES!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, HANDA-CHAN!?
OWWWIE!
WHAT THE HECK IS THIS PANEL!?
YOU'RE EMBARRASSING HER!
GOOD EYE THERE! THAT'S A LITTLE *EX—
BWUGH!
HUH!?
HANDA-CHAN WOULD NEVER BEHAVE SO IMMODESTLY!
YOU ONE-EYED SWINE!
PREZ!! WHAT'D YA DO DAT FOR!?
HANDA-CHAN DOESN'T NEED RAUNCH LIKE THAT!!
PANTIE FLASHES ARE CLASSIC!
BUT A MANGA WITH BEAUTIE-GIRLS ALWAYS ADDS A LITTLE RAUNCH, 'LO!

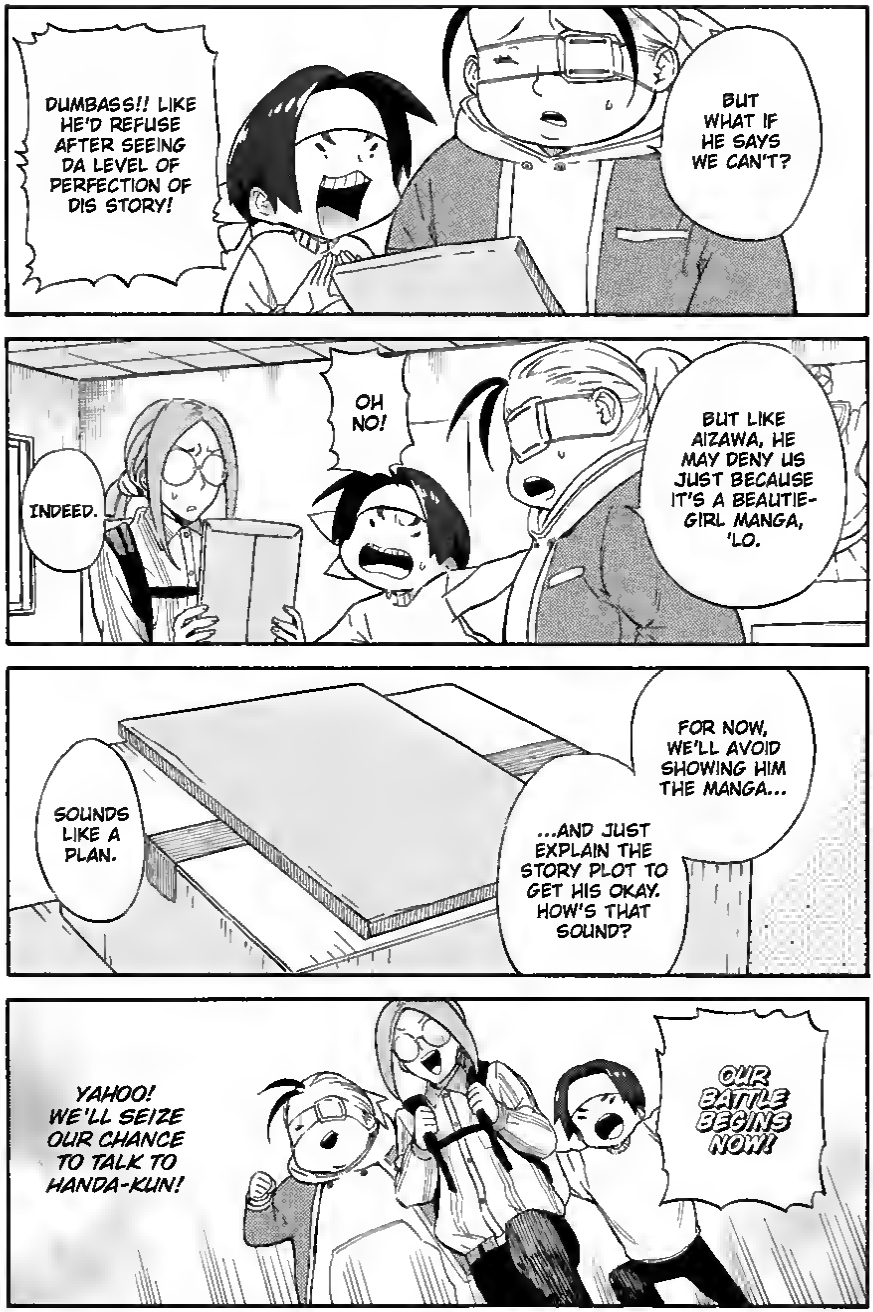
OKAY, I'LL SHOW MINE TA CLEAR DA AIR.
MEKOO (SMASH)
I'M TORN!
IN THAT CASE, MAKE YOUR HANDA-CHAN WEAR TRACK PANTS UNDER HER SKIRT!
...FIGHTS BATTLES FOR DA SAKE OF HER MASTER, WHO'S ALSO HER BOY-FRIEND!
IT'S MY TAKO, YO!
MY HANDA-CHAN...
MEZEE (CRUNCH)
ISN'T A (MALE) PROTAG ALWAYS A HAREM SELF-INSERT!?
ARE YOU MAKING LIGHT OF HANDA-CHAN'S FIDELITY!?
GACK!
GACK!
GACK!
GAAAHH!
MY CHEEK-BONE!

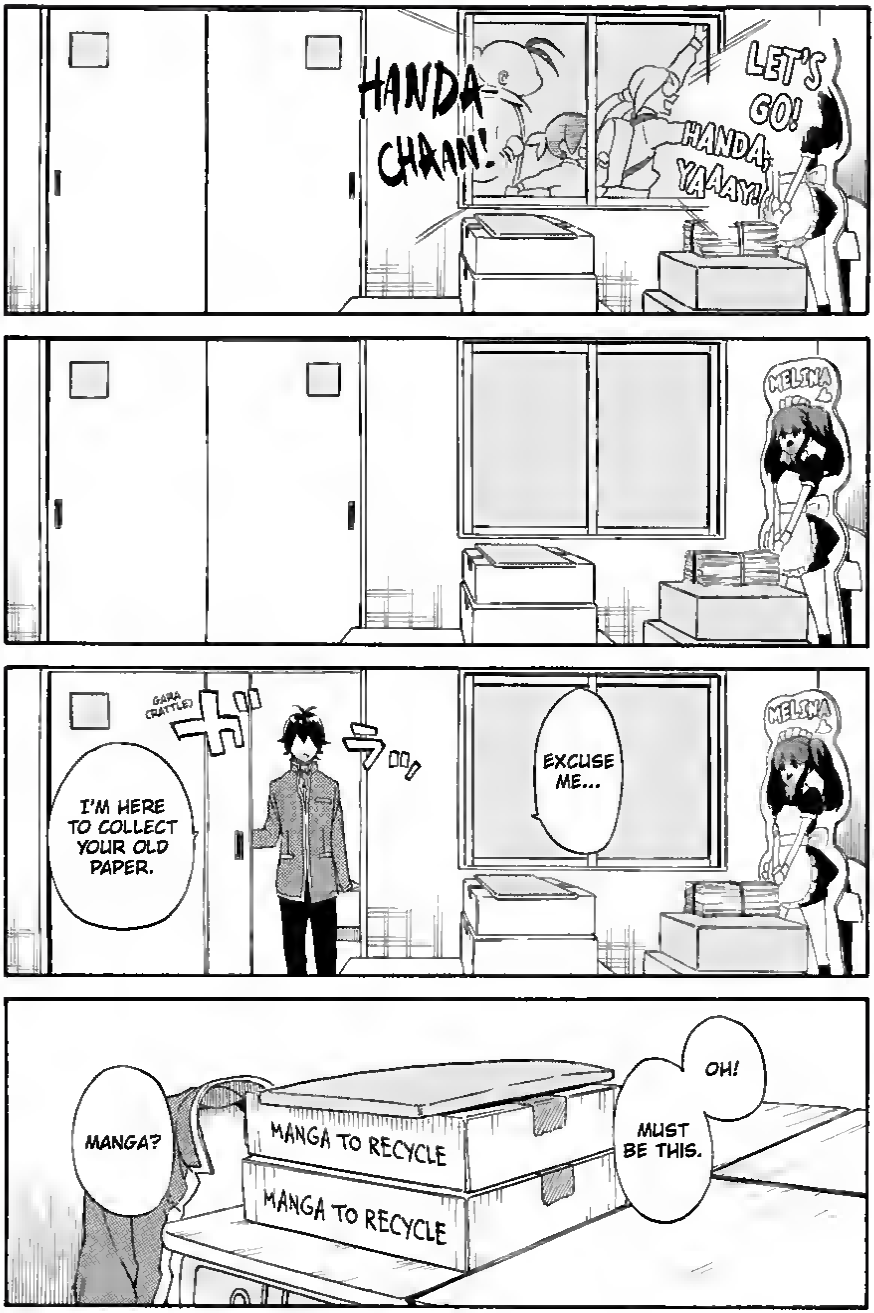
DAT'S DA LAST STRAW!
DAMN IT!
DON'T YOU SEE THE EROTICISM ENGENDERED EVEN WHEN NOTHING IS EXPOSED!?
YOU GUYS DON'T REALIZE HANDA-CHAN'S TRUE CHARM.
DERE'S NOTHING MORE DISAPPOINTING DAN OPENING AN EROTIC MANGA ONLY TA FIND A STORY MANGA WIF EROTIC UNDERTONES!
DON'T GO THINKING THAT READERS ALWAYS DEMAND SOMETHING WITH SUBSTANCE!
GUH!
YA SHAME US BY IGNORING DAT, PREZ!
...RAUNCH AND SELF-INSERT HAREMS ARE TO BE EXPECTED, 'LO!
WHEN YOU'RE DRAWING BEAUTIE-GIRLS...
BUT...
I CAN'T ARGUE WITH WHAT YOU SAY.

SU (SHIFF)
...WHERE HANDA-CHAN IS CONCERNED ...
...WE HAVE TO REVISE OUR MODE OF THINKING.
da-chan
s...?"
YES.
YOU'RE TELLING US TO READ THIS AND DECIDE, 'LO?
JUST LIKE THIS LEFTOVER STOCK, I WILL DISCARD THE IMAGE OF HEROINES THAT I ONCE HELD.
DOSU (PLOP)
RECYCLE
RECYCLE
FOR A WHOLE WEEK, I'VE SAT AT MY DESK, TALKING WITH HANDA-CHAN.
D—
DIS IS...
I NOW ENTRUST EVERYTHING TO THIS SINGLE BEAUTIE-GIRL NAMED "HANDA-CHAN."

.....
PAPA (FLIP)
.....
"Handa- is...?
WHAT IS DIS!?
BUWA (CRY)
MM-HMM.
NOW, HERE'S DA HANDA-CHAN DA WORLD DEMANDS!
P-PREZ, YOU'RE A GENIUS, 'LO!
JUST LIKE A SAINT.
HANDA-CHAN MUST BE NOBLE AND DEEPLY COMPASSIONATE.

YOU SEE!?
DA WAY SHE LOOKS PUTTING A ROBE ON DA NAKED GIRL IS PURE BEAUTY.
NOW I UNDERSTAND HOW SUBLIME HANDA-CHAN IS.
YA OBSERVED DA GUY!? AMAZING, PREZ!
...IS CLOSELY OBSERVING THE ACTUAL SUBJECT.
AFTER ALL, WHAT'S IMPORTANT ...
WELL, LET'S NOT GET HASTY.
IT'S GONNA SELL LIKE GANGBUSTERS AT DA NEXT SCHOOL FESTIVAL!
I SIMPLY CAN'T WAIT!
LET'S GET THIS BULLETIN FINISHED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, 'LO!
OH YEAH.
NOW DAT YA MENTION IT...
RECYCLE
WE DON'T HAVE HANDA'S APPROVAL FOR IT YET.

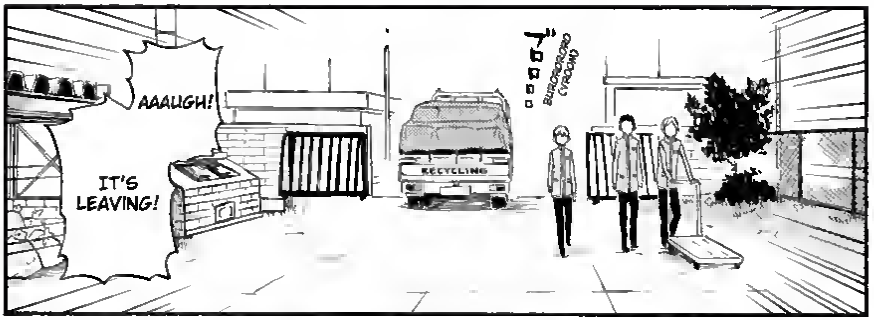

DUMBASS!! LIKE HE'D REFUSE AFTER SEEING DA LEVEL OF PERFECTION OF DIS STORY!
BUT WHAT IF HE SAYS WE CAN'T?
INDEED.
OH NO!
BUT LIKE AIZAWA, HE MAY DENY US JUST BECAUSE IT'S A BEAUTIE-GIRL MANGA, 'LO.
SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN.
...AND JUST EXPLAIN THE STORY PLOT TO GET HIS OKAY. HOW'S THAT SOUND?
FOR NOW, WE'LL AVOID SHOWING HIM THE MANGA...
YAHOO! WE'LL SEIZE OUR CHANCE TO TALK TO HANDA-KUN!
OUR BATTLE BEGINS NOW!!

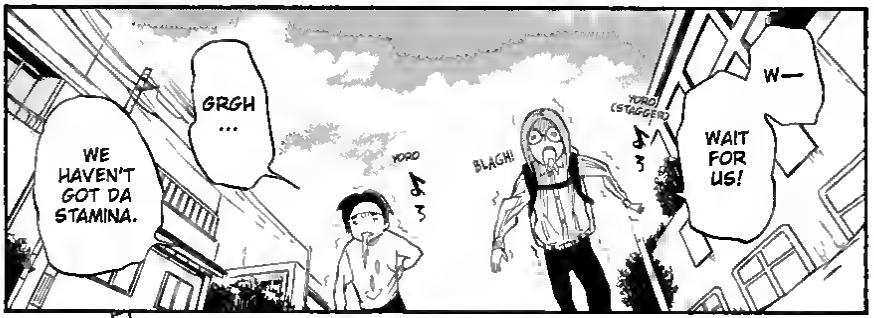

HANDA-CHAAN!
LET'S GO!
HANDA-YAAAY?!
MELTINA
GARA (RATTLE)
I'M HERE TO COLLECT YOUR OLD PAPER.
EXCUSE ME...
MELTINA
MANGA?
MANGA TO RECYCLE
MANGA TO RECYCLE
OH! MUST BE THIS.

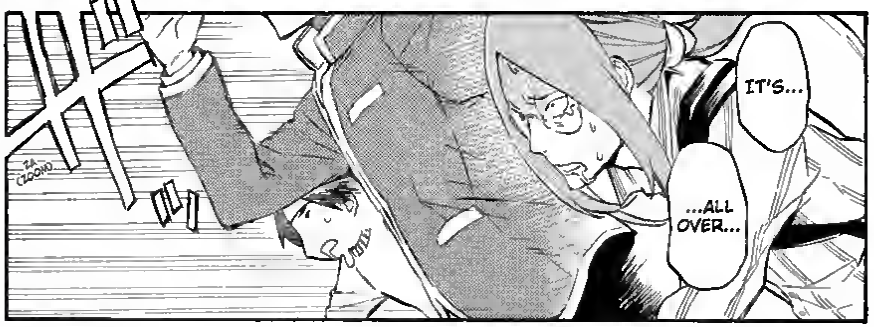
HANDA-KUN!
WHERE ARE YOU?
2-7
HANDA-KUUUN!
AIZA-WA!
HAS HANDA-KUN LEFT ALREADY?
GARA
OLD NEWSPAPERS
RECYCLE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OVER HERE?
THE BEAUX-ARTS CLUB?
YEAH, YOU CAN COME GET IT ANYTIME.
ON THAT NOTE, DID YOU GET YOUR LEFT-OVER STOCK IN ORDER?
OH, HANDA-KUN AND SOME OTHER STUDENTS ARE HELPING ME COLLECT OLD PAPER.
HUH?
IT'S RIGHT ON TOP OF THE...

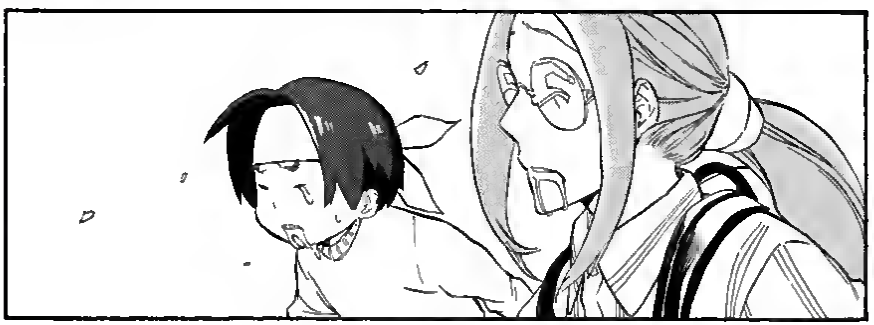
SOMEONE ELSE ALREADY COLLECTED IT.
SEVERAL PEOPLE ARE GOING AROUND.
SIGN. -CHAN
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
HUH?
HUH?
HUH?
THERE WAS A MANUSCRIPT SITTING HERE EARLIER...
WELL...
IT WAS HERE, EARLIER...

DA
DA
DA
DA
DA
DA
DA
DA
I NEVER EXPECTED A STRANGER TO ENTER THE CLUBROOM!
DUMB-ASS!
WHY'D YA SET IT ON TOP OF DA TRASH!?
WHO DID THAT WITHOUT PERMIS-SION!?
DAMN IT ALL!
Stairs, Beware
I WON'T LET THE GUY WHO TOOK IT AWAY OFF EASY!!
I PUT MY LIFE ON THE LINE FOR THAT MANGA!!
"MANGA"?
WE NEED TO HURRY BEFORE THE RECYCLING TRUCK GETS HERE!!


AAAUGH!
IT'S LEAVING!
RECYCLING
BUROROROORO (VROOM)


GRGH ...
WE HAVEN'T GOT DA STAMINA.
YORO
BLAGH!
YOROI (STAGGER)
W—
WAIT FOR US!

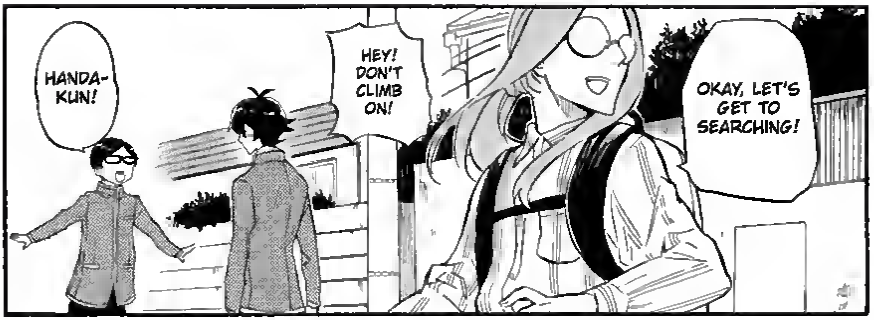

IT'S...
...ALL OVER...
ZA (CLOSE)



HANDA-KUN!
HANDA-KUN'S...
WHEEZE...
WHEEZE...
WHEEZE...
WHEEZE
EH?
WHY'S ...?
...WHO THREW IT AWAY!
I'M THE ONE...

HANDA-CHAN...
HANDA-KUN...
AHH!
BACKING UP.
PII (BEEP)
PII
PII
RECYCLING
HANDA-CHAN BROUGHT THE TRUCK BACK!
IT'S BACK!
TH-THAT WAS CLOSE...
WHEEZE...
HUFF...
THANK GOOD-NESS!
YIPPEE!

DA MANU-SCRIPT!!
IS DA MANU-SCRIPT SAFE!?
HANDA-KUN...
THA—
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D HAVE DONE IF THEY BLAMED ME FOR LOSING THEIR PRECIOUS DOCUMENTS.
PEKORI (BOW)
THANK YOU.

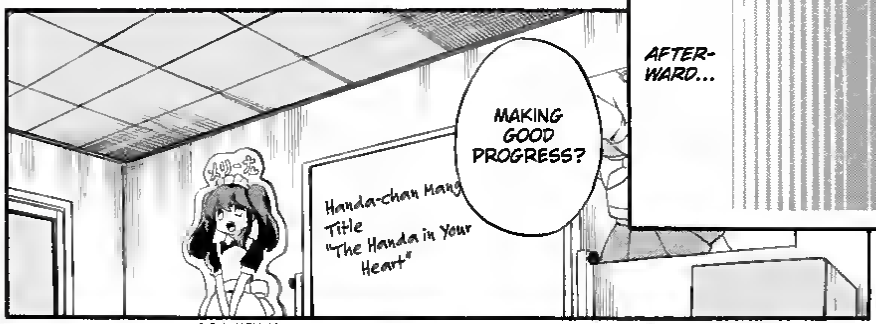

HANDA-KUN!
HEY! DON'T CLIMB ON!
OKAY, LET'S GET TO SEARCHING!

THIS GLASSES GUY...
WHICH IDIOT COULD HAVE RECYCLED IT?
LOOKS LIKE IT WAS A CLOSE CALL.

!
PERO (LICK)
PAGA (RUSTLE)
PAGA
HEY! DON'T SCATTER THOSE!
ARE YOU NUTS!?

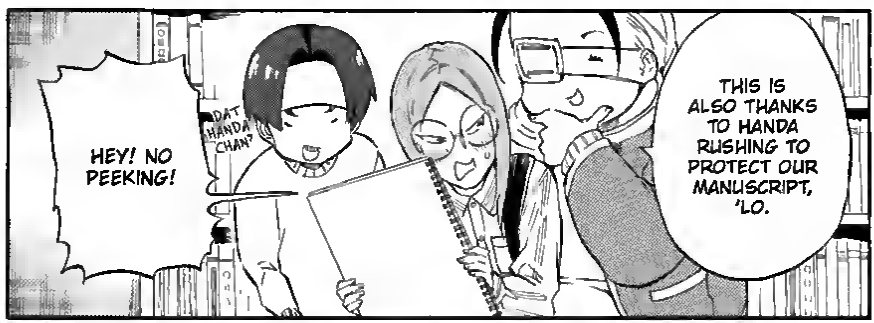
PERO (LICK)
COME ON, GUYS! DON'T MAKE A MESS!

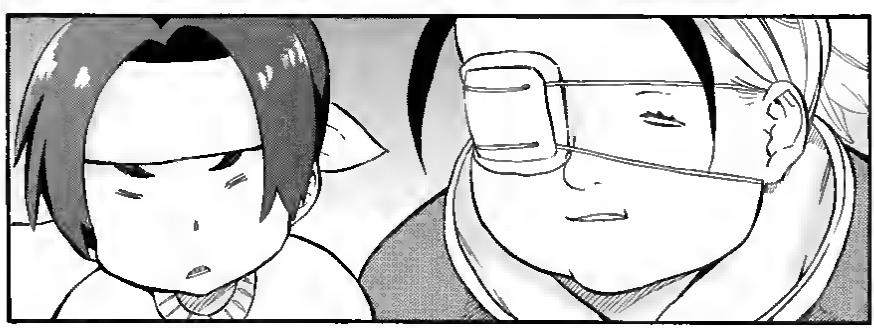
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, HANDA-CHAN!?
OWWWIE!
DAAAN (SLAM)
ALL RIGHT. HOP ON.
SHEESH, YOU'RE HOPE-LESS.
YOU KNOCKED INTO ME AND FELL OVER.
I SENSED HANDA RUNNING...
YAYYY!
FOUND IT!
DAMN IT! ARE YOU GUYS NUTS!?
RECYCLING
WHAT THE WHAT!?

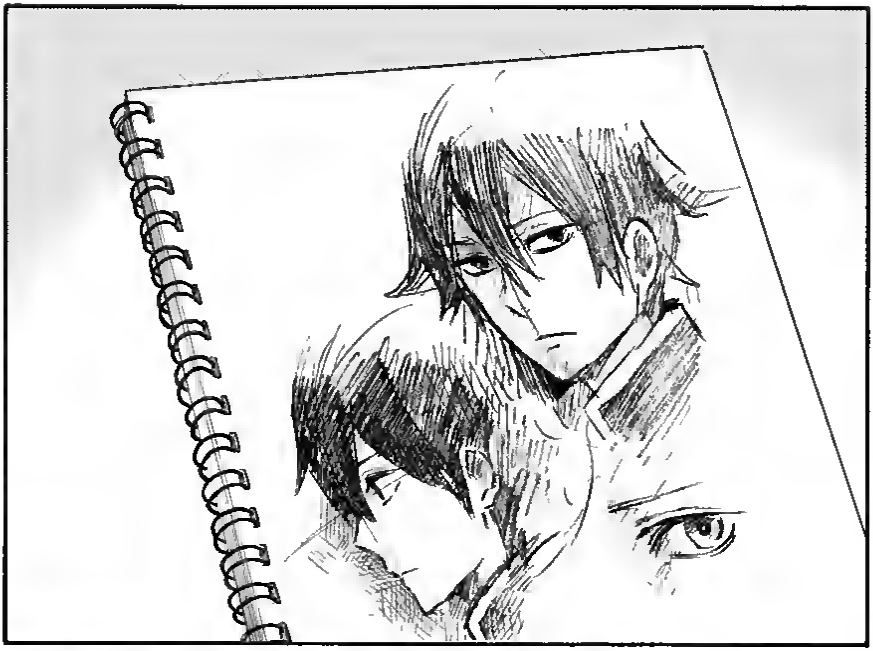

AFTER-
WARD...
MAKING GOOD PROGRESS?
Handa-chan Manga
Title
"The Handa in Your Heart"

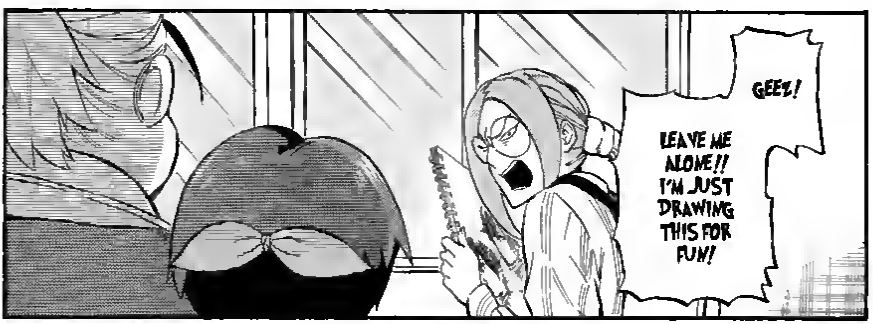
SIGN: MELINA

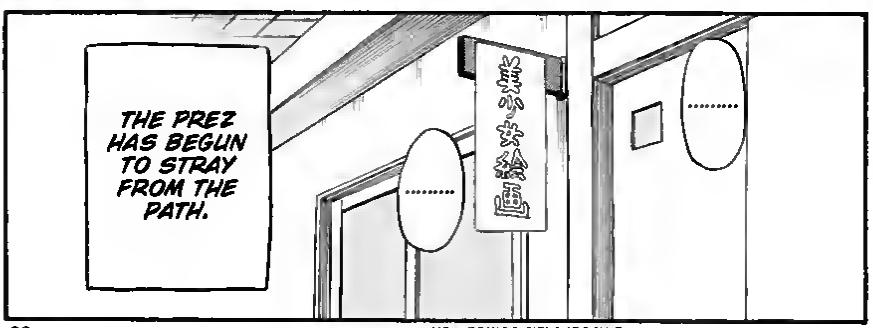
I TOLD DEM IT'D BE SOLD AT DA SCHOOL FESTIVAL...
...AND GOT ALL DESE RESERVA-TIONS!
YEAH.


HEY! NO PEEKING!
DAT HANDA CHAN?
THIS IS ALSO THANKS TO HANDA RUSHING TO PROTECT OUR MANUSCRIPT, 'LO.






GEEZ!
LEAVE ME ALONE!! I'M JUST DRAWING THIS FOR FUN!


THE PREZ HAS BEGUN TO STRAY FROM THE PATH.
.....
.....
美術部

AS LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE, I LEND OUT BOOKS DURING LUNCH BREAK AND AFTER SCHOOL.
I AM KASUMI HIRAYAMA.
Love is Here
...SINCE TODAY, THE LIBRARY IS YET AGAIN AS EMPTY AS A TOMB.
.....
BUT IT SEEMS THAT FEWER YOUNG PEOPLE ARE READING NOWADAYS...
THE LIBRARY HAS BECOME A PLACE WHOSE EXISTENCE NO LONGER MATTERS.
SPACE
HISTORY
OUR FUNDS FOR BOOK-BUYING HAVE ALSO BEEN CUT.
HE'S HERE!
GARA (RATTLE)
...I DO HAVE ONE HUGE SOURCE OF MORAL SUPPORT.
WHILE THE SITUATION IS TOUGH...

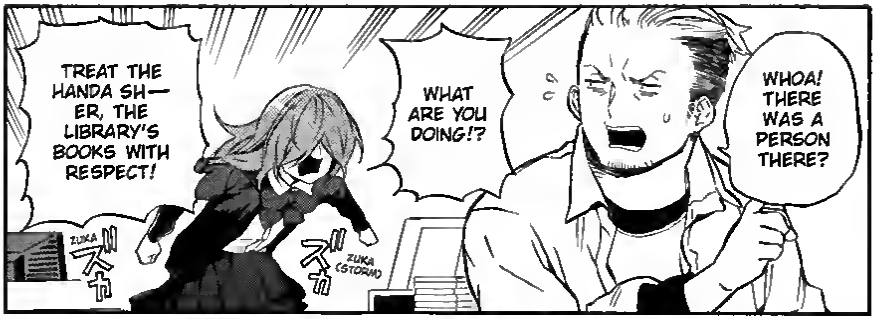
THE PRINCE WHO SOMETIMES COMES TO CHECK OUT BOOKS...
...HANDA-KUN.
HE'S ALWAYS SO WONDERFUL.
Love is Here
Shark Sanka!
Love is Here

I WONDER WHAT SORT OF GIRL YOU THINK I AM, HANDA-KUN.
THERE'S A PERSON THERE..
I AM QUITE THE INTROVERT, CERTAINLY.
SO SNERKY
YOU PROBABLY CONSIDER ME RETICENT AND DRAB.
BUT I'D LIKE YOU TO NOTICE...
...THAT I'M USING THE BULK OF MY SCARCE FUNDS...
...TO BUY BOOKS SPECIFICALLY FOR YOU.
THE HANDA SHELF
Sushi kanji
CHARACTERS
TRAINING GAUNTLESSLY
Why is Ink Black?
Obligation of a Maid
Calligraphy Scrolls and Pitfalls
SPRING SUMMER FALL WINTER
Names of the 15 Edonguma Shogun
AVERSIVE
BIOGRAPHY
Flowing Script

OH, THERE'S A NEW BOOK HERE.
HEH HEH... THAT WAS ME.
I BOUGHT IT
ALTHOUGH, I DON'T READ THEM EITHER.
I GET THE FEELING ONLY I READ SUCH OBSCURE FANATIC BOOKS.
SOME OF THEM WERE OUT OF PRINT AND THEREFORE EXPENSIVE.
AND FINALLY, I WONDER— WILL YOU NOTICE?
THERE IS A ROMANCE NOVEL BLENDED INTO THE HANDA SHELF.
The Day I Chose My Brush
HISTORY OF JAPANESE KATAKANA
THE PERSON WHO MADE YOUR BRUSH
CALLIGRAPHY OF HEAVEN
A Bookshelf in Love
EDO ERA WRITING
BEAUTIFUL WOMEN
5
IT TELLS A STORY OF THE LOVE BETWEEN THE HOTTEST GUY IN SCHOOL AND A PLAIN LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE.
The Princess and the King
Love is Here
ANCIENT GLYPHS
ZO (CHILL)
CHU (KISS)

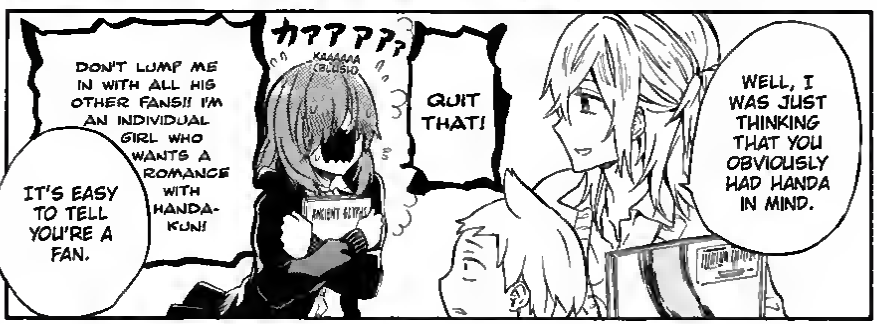
URO (LOOKING)
うろ
URO
うろ
URO
うろ
1000 Characters
The Way of Calligraphy
SU (SHIFF)
すっ
HEH-HEH. AS EXPECTED, HE DIDN'T TAKE THE ROMANCE NOVEL.
...SO I SLIPPED A COPY OF THE NOVEL UNDER THE JACKET OF A CALLIGRAPHY BOOK.
A Bookshelf in Love
Mirin
NIYAAA (SMILING)
ニヤアア
The Way of Calligraphy
I THOUGHT THAT WOULD HAPPEN...

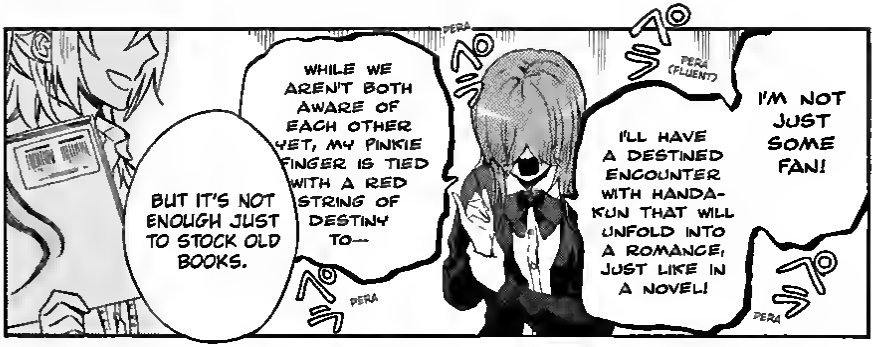
PLEASE READ THAT ROMANCE...
...AND NOTICE THIS PLAIN HEROINE.
HMM...HE SHOULD BE COMING TO CHECK OUT A BOOK TODAY THOUGH.
GEEZ, WE CAN'T FIND HANDA ANY-WHERE.
I DON'T LIKE HOW THEY CHASE HANDA-KUN AROUND, ACTING LIKE THEY OWN HIM.
...TO JUMP OUT AND SURPRISE US!
MAYBE HE'S HIDING SOME-WHERE..
...HANDA-KUN'S DISCIPLES SOMETIMES COME BY LIKE THIS.
WHILE BASICALLY NOBODY VISITS HERE...
HEY!
WHOA!
SHOOT!
THESE BOOKS ARE ALL, LIKE, REALLY OLD.


TREAT THE HANDA SH— ER, THE LIBRARY'S BOOKS WITH RESPECT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
WHOA! THERE WAS A PERSON THERE?
ZUKA
ZUKA (STORM)

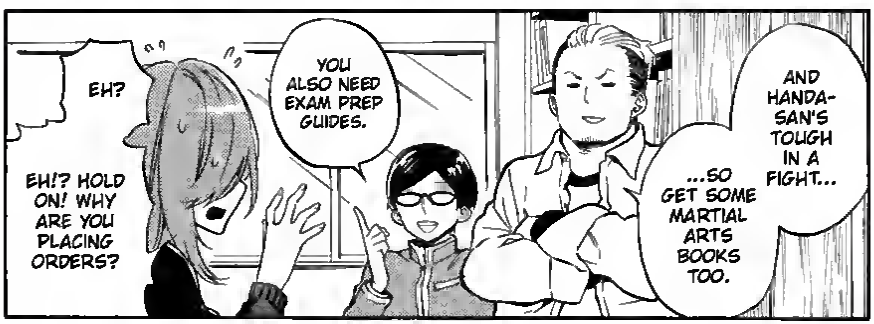
BUTSU (MUTTER)
HONESTLY... YOU COULD LEARN FROM HANDA-KUN'S EXAMPLE.
BUTSU
SORRY
SORRY ABOUT THIS UPROAR...
...LIBRARY REP-SAN.

HOLD ON!
JUST WHAT ARE YOU IN-SINUATING!? AND DON'T TOUCH THAT!! IT'S EXPENSIVE!!
DO YOU BUY THE BOOKS HERE?


DON'T LUMP ME IN WITH ALL HIS OTHER FANS!! I'M AN INDIVIDUAL GIRL WHO WANTS A ROMANCE WITH HANDA-KUN!
カアアア?
KAAAAA (BLUSH)
IT'S EASY TO TELL YOU'RE A FAN.
QUIT THAT!
WELL, I WAS JUST THINKING THAT YOU OBVIOUSLY HAD HANDA IN MIND.

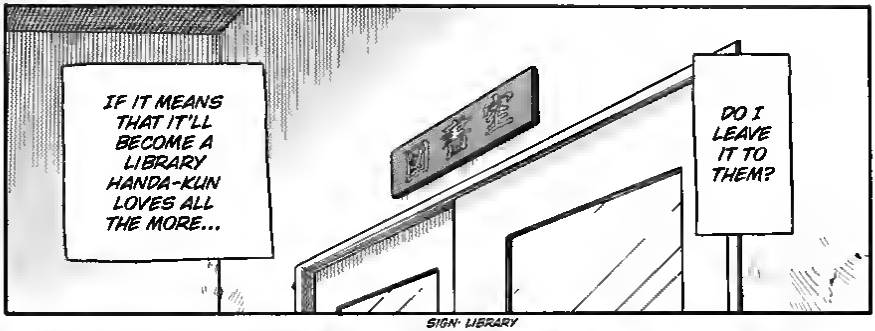

I'M NOT JUST SOME FAN!
PERA (FLUENT)
I'LL HAVE A DESTINED ENCOUNTER WITH HANDA-KUN THAT WILL UNFOLD INTO A ROMANCE, JUST LIKE IN A NOVEL!
PERA
WHILE WE AREN'T BOTH AWARE OF EACH OTHER YET, MY PINKIE FINGER IS TIED WITH A RED STRING OF DESTINY TO---
PERA
BUT IT'S NOT ENOUGH JUST TO STOCK OLD BOOKS.

EH?
A STYLISH TRENDSETTER LIKE HANDA ALSO REQUIRES FASHION MAGS.
THESE DAYS, LIBRARIES WITHOUT MAGAZINES SEEM OLD-FASHIONED.

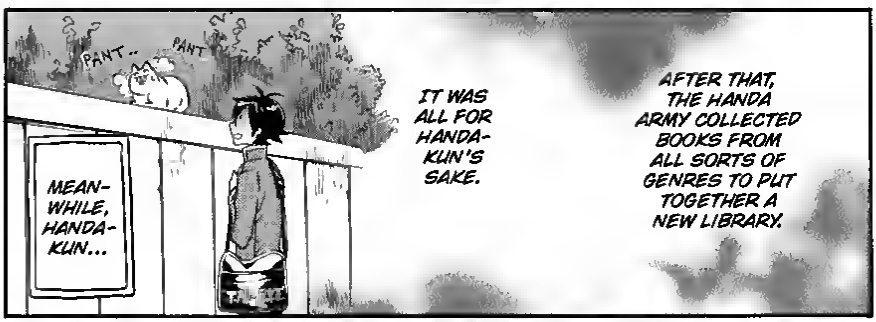

AND HANDA-SAN'S TOUGH IN A FIGHT...
...SO GET SOME MARTIAL ARTS BOOKS TOO.
YOU ALSO NEED EXAM PREP GUIDES.
EH?
EH!? HOLD ON! WHY ARE YOU PLACING ORDERS?

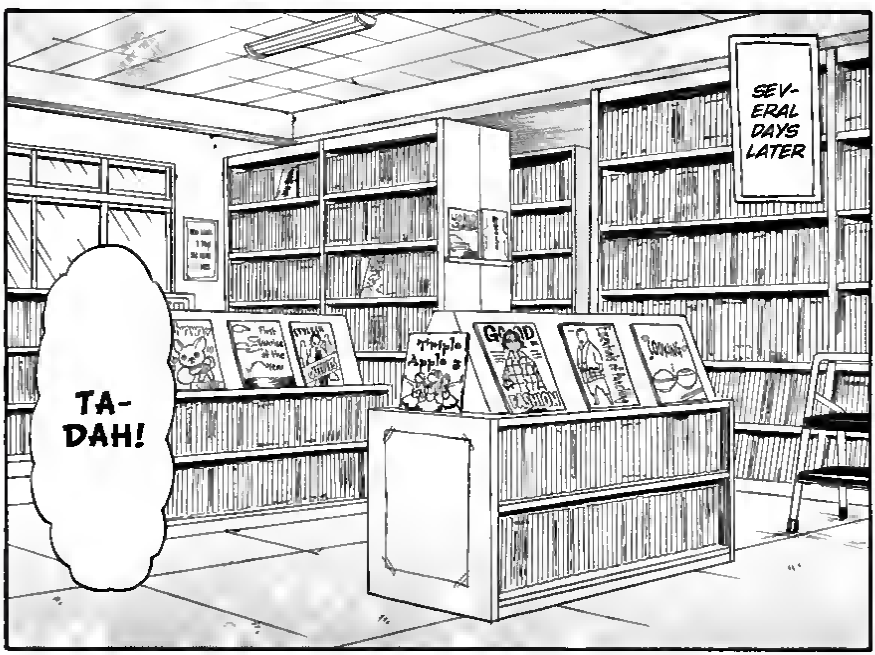
SINCE IT'S COME TO THIS...
...WE'LL USE OUR SKILLS TO REMODEL THIS RUIN OF A LIBRARY!
YEAH! LET'S DO IT!!
SOUNDS GREAT!!
"SINCE IT'S COME TO THIS"? COME TO WHAT!?
DON'T STEER THE CONVERSATION LIKE THAT!!

ONE'S OWN FEELINGS SHOULDN'T FACTOR INTO IT!
THE LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE MUST SELECT BOOKS THAT ARE IN DEMAND BY ALL THE STUDENTS!
THAT'S DIFFERENT!! IT'S NOT LIKE I'M ASPIRING TO ANYTHING!
Library Rep's Select
To the One I Love
Book of Lovers
SO WHO'S INTO THESE ROMANCE NOVELS?
GCK!
LEAVE IT ALL TO US, AND WE CAN MAKE THIS INTO HANDA-SAN'S KIND OF LIBRARY.
IF YOU'RE THE EXPERT ON BOOKS, THEN WE'RE THE EXPERTS ON HANDA-KUN.
THEY ARE NOT.
...I GUESS THESE GUYS ARE BETTER FRIENDS WITH HANDA-KUN THAN I AM.
WELL...



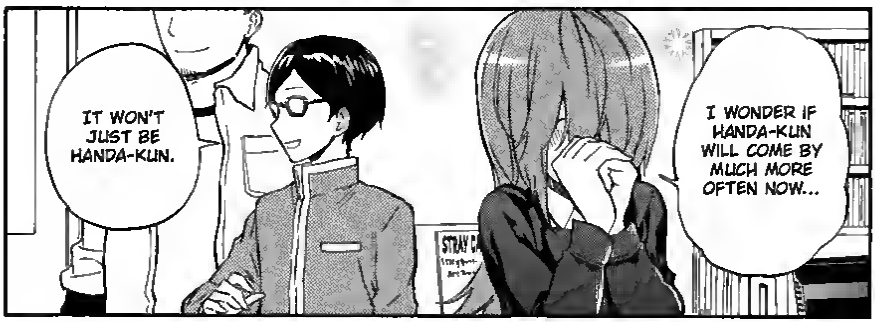
SIGN: LIBRARY

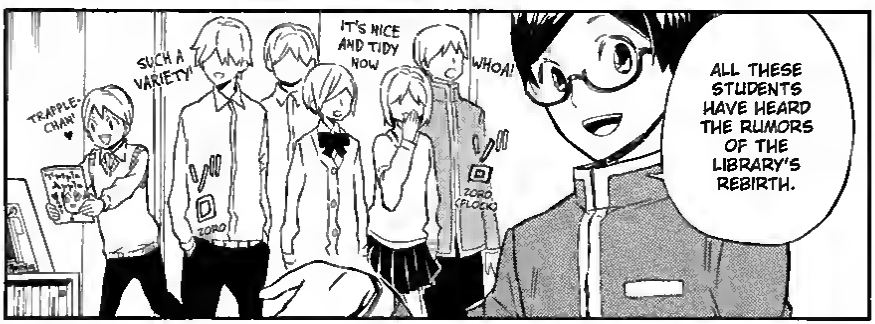

PANT..
PANT
MEAN-WHILE, HANDA-KUN...
IT WAS ALL FOR HANDA-KUN'S SAKE.
AFTER THAT, THE HANDA ARMY COLLECTED BOOKS FROM ALL SORTS OF GENRES TO PUT TOGETHER A NEW LIBRARY.



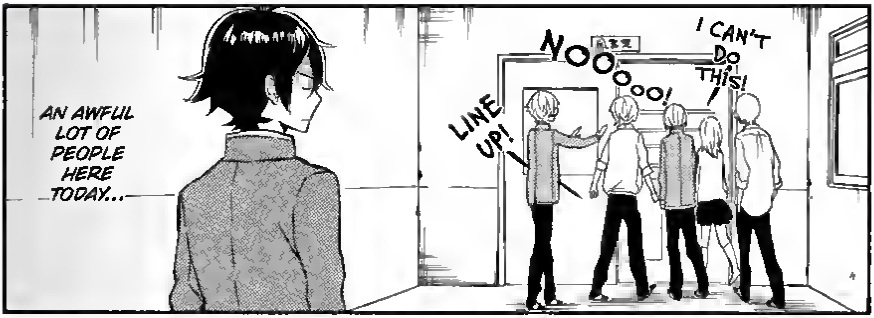
HOW DID YOU GUYS MANAGE ALL THIS WITH OUR SMALL BUDGET?
OH WOW!
WHAT AN AMAZING SELECTION!!

WHEN WE SAID IT WAS FOR HANDA-KUN, EVERYONE WAS HAPPY TO CONTRIBUTE.
INCREDIBLE! THERE'RE SO MANY NEW BOOKS!
...AND THEY DONATED THEIR OLD BOOKS.
WE ASKED OUR CLASS-MATES TO HELP OUT...

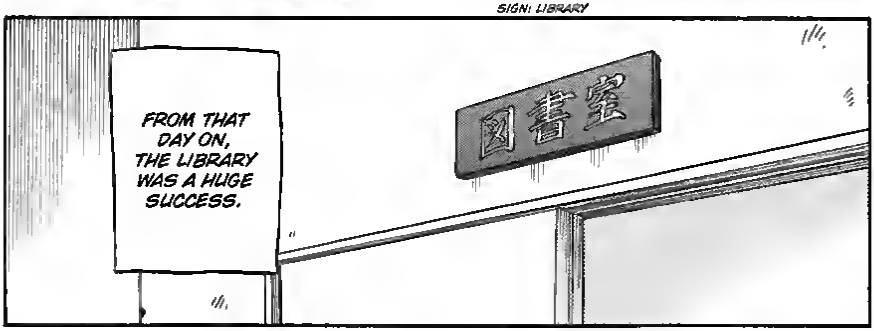

IT WON'T JUST BE HANDA-KUN.
I WONDER IF HANDA-KUN WILL COME BY MUCH MORE OFTEN NOW...


TRAPPE-CHAN!
SUCH A VARIETY!
IT'S NICE AND TIDY NOW
WHOA!
ALL THESE STUDENTS HAVE HEARD THE RUMORS OF THE LIBRARY'S REBIRTH.

I WOULD LIKE TO CHECK OUT THIS BOOK.
Triple Apple 3
EH?
FROM ME!?
WELL, YOU'RE THE LIBRARY REP.
I WANT TO CHECK OUT ALL OF THESE VOLUMES!!
OH, THERE'S MANGA TOO!
OH, OH MY...
IS DERE NOW?
ANNIHILATION MAN
GO ON, DO YOUR BEST, LIBRARY REP.
WAIT A MINUTE!
WHY DID YOU INVITE PEOPLE BESIDES HANDA-KUN!?
WE DIDN'T INVITE THEM. THEY CAME HERE THEM-SELVES.
OH NO!
I DIDN'T ASK FOR THIS!
IT'S TOO MUCH TO DO ALONE!
SOME-BODY, HELP ME OUT!



SIGN: LIBRARY



...WITH MANY STUDENTS WHO CAME TO CHECK OUT BOOKS.
AS THOUGH THE PRIOR SILENCE HAD NEVER EXISTED, IT OVERFLOWED...
I GOT BUSY WITH MY ORIGINAL WORK AS THE LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE.
MY BANGS ARE IN THE WAY...
...MY DAYS WERE SURPRISINGLY FULFILLING.
BECAUSE I HAD LOVED BOOKS FROM THE START...
BUT...
TREND

AIZAWA-KUN!
IT'S VERY BUSY, THANKS TO YOU.
THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK, LIBRARY REP.
Woods
Forest
REALLY?
NOW WE CAN INCREASE THE COLLECTION EVEN MORE.
THE STUDENT COUNCIL SAID THEY'LL INCREASE THE BUDGET FOR BOOK-BUYING.
TREND
THAT WAS THE FACE OF A TRUE LIBRARY REP.
HEH HEH.
EH?
HANDA-KUN'S GOTTEN US ONCE AGAIN.
Naru's Big A

HANDA-KUN LURED US HERE...
...TO HAVE US REFORM THE LIBRARY.
HE MUST HAVE WANTED IT TO BE MORE LIKE THIS FOR SOME TIME.
BUT...
...AFTER THE LIBRARY GOT SO BUSY...
...HANDA-KUN STOPPED COMING BY.

AFTER SCHOOL
THERE! THAT'S IT FOR TODAY'S WORK.
TON (TAP)
GARA (RATTLE)
!?
HANDA-KUN...
...HAS COME TO RETURN THE BOOKS HE CHECKED OUT EARLIER.
UH, SAY...
DOKUN (BADUM)
Y-YES!?

...FOR THE FIRST TIME.
WHAT!? OH DEAR... HE JUST SPOKE TO ME...
Book About the Sky
WILL IT LEAD TO HIM PATTING ME ON THE HEAD AND SAYING, "YOU DID VERY WELL"?
BURU
BURU
IS HE GOING TO PRAISE MY RECENT ACHIEVE-MENTS!?
WHAT COULD IT BE?
BURU (TREMBLE)
HERE IT COMES!
THE OTHER DAY...
...I BORROWED A BOOK WHERE THE CONTENT DIDN'T MATCH THE COVER.
The Way of Calligraphy
OH.....
OHHH...

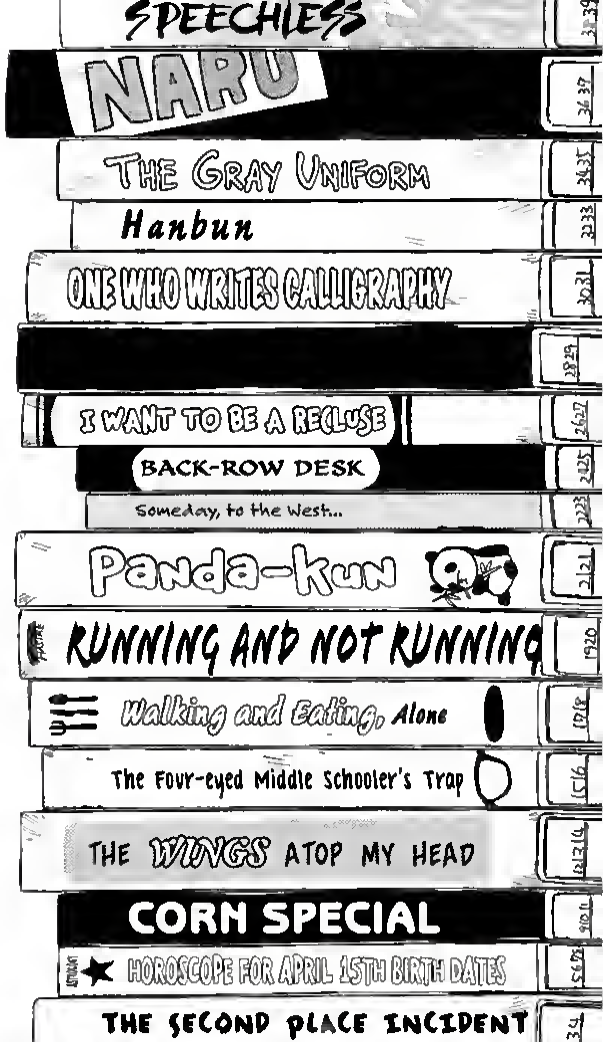
DID YOU READ WHAT WAS INSIDE?
The Way of Calligraphy
IT'S TRUE. I DID USE THAT TRICK.
THAT, HUH?
OH DEAR!
SILLY ME, I GOT CARRIED AWAY AND SPOKE TO HIM!
INSIDE?
I EVEN ASKED FOR HIS IMPRESSION. I'M SO DARING!!
H-HOW WAS IT!?
JUST A BIT OF IT.
UMM...

THE LIBRARY GIRL'S...
...SINCERE DEVOTION TO HER WORK THRILLED ME.
I KNEW IT! HANDA-KUN REALLY WAS WATCHING ME WORK!
AND YET, I THOUGHT ONLY OF ROMANCE!

EH!?
FROM NOW ON, I WON'T BE GETTING MORE CALLIGRAPHY BOOKS.
I WANT TO GET A WIDE VARIETY OF BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY...
...SO THAT A LOT OF STUDENTS WILL COME.
YOU DON'T...
...NEED TO COME HERE ANYMORE, HANDA-KUN.
FOR HANDA-KUN'S SAKE, I WILL BECOME A CAPABLE WORKING WOMAN.
PI (BEEP)
THERE.
THAT'S YOUR LAST BOOK RETURN.

SIGH...
HUH? WHAT THE HECK BROUGHT THAT ON, AND HOW?
I CAN'T BELIEVE THE LIBRARY REP PERSONALLY ORDERED ME TO STAY AWAY.
OH, RIGHT, THE ROMANCE NOVEL THING.
THE TRUTH IS, I DIDN'T WANT TO SAY ANY-THING...
...BUT I WORRIED ABOUT THE NEXT BORROWER.
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I TOLD HER THE CONTENTS DIDN'T MATCH THE COVER.
YOU DIDN'T READ IT?
A BOOK-SHELF IN LOVE.
NAH.
NOT MY THING.
SO THAT WAS A ROMANCE NOVEL?

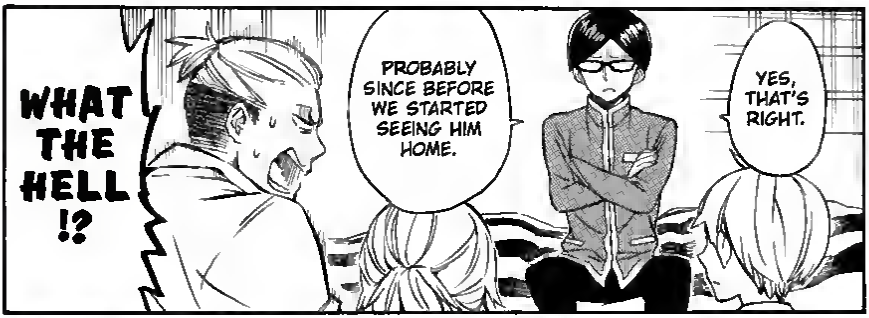
...I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF TELLING HER WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT IT, VERBATIM.
BUT, SINCE THE LIBRARY REP ASKED FOR MY IMPRESSION...
YOU WERE A LIFESAVER, READING THAT TO KILL TIME.
OH, THAT? "THE LIBRARY GIRL THRILLED ME"?
YOU DON'T NEED TO COME TO THE LIBRARY ANYMORE, HANDA-KUN.
YOU'RE THE ONLY GOOD GUY AROUND.
GLAD I SERVED A PURPOSE.
...I WILL COME TO YOU.
NYAA (SMIRK)
FROM NOW ON...

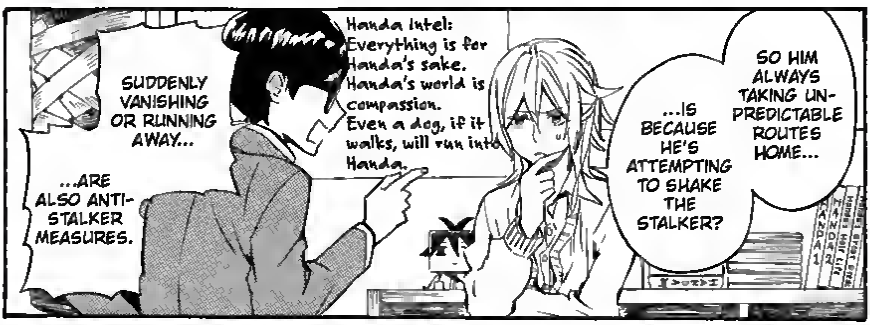

SPEECHLESS
NARU
THE GRAY UNIFORM
Hanbun
ONE WHO WRITES CALLIGRAPHY
I WANT TO BE A RECLUSE
BACK-ROW DESK
Someday, to the West...
Panda-kun
RUNNING AND NOT RUNNING
Walking and Eating, Alone
The Four-eyed Middle Schooler's Trap
THE WINGS ATOP MY HEAD
CORN SPECIAL
HOROSCOPE FOR APRIL 15TH BIRTH DATES
THE SECOND PLACE INCIDENT

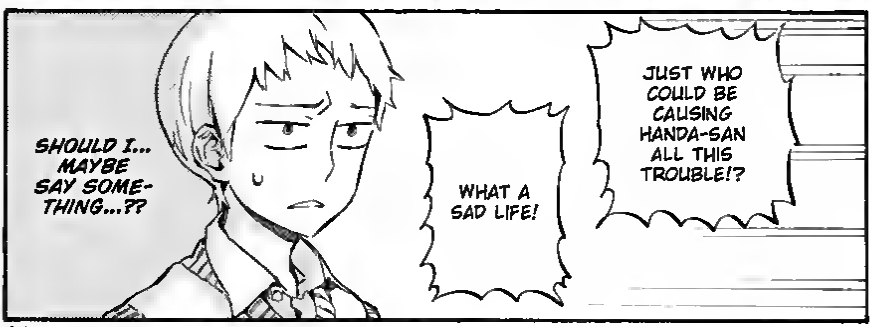
I AM CLASS REP JUNICHI AIZAWA OF THE HANDA ARMY.
TODAY, I AM ON DUTY TO SEE HANDA-KUN HOME.
KYORO
KYORO (GLANCE)
!
HE'S SUDDENLY ALERT TO HIS SURROUNDINGS.
DA (CASH)
OH!
WAIT, HANDA-KUN!
THERE IT IS AGAIN—THAT AURA OF DISCOMFORT I SENSE FROM HANDA-KUN WHEN I'M TRYING TO SEE HIM HOME.
IT'S AS IF HE'S RUNNING AWAY FROM SOMETHING.

HUFF...
HUFF...
HE'S NOT HERE...
COULD IT BE THAT HANDA-KUN'S...?

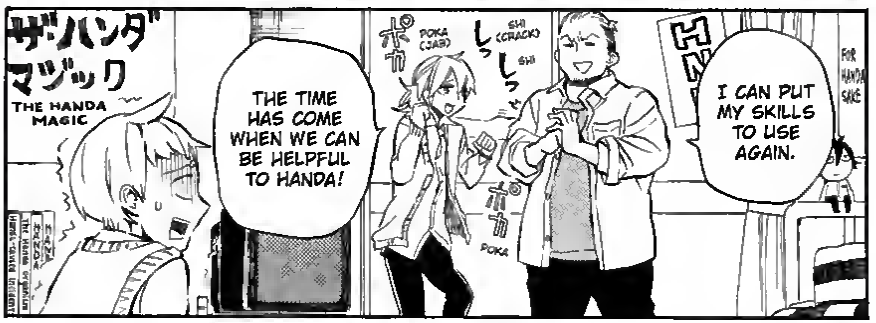
SIGN: HANDA HIDDEN HEADQUARTERS

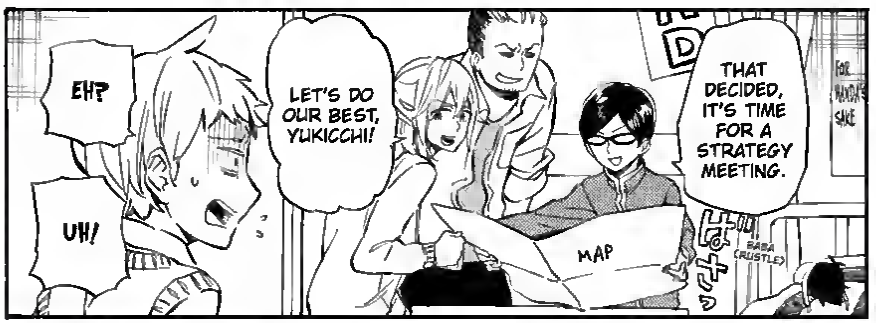



SUDDENLY VANISHING OR RUNNING AWAY...
...ARE ALSO ANTI-STALKER MEASURES.
Handa Intel: Everything is for Handa's sake. Handa's world is compassion. Even a dog, if it walks, will run into Handa.
...IS BECAUSE HE'S ATTEMPTING TO SHAKE THE STALKER?
SO HIM ALWAYS TAKING UN-PREDICTABLE ROUTES HOME...



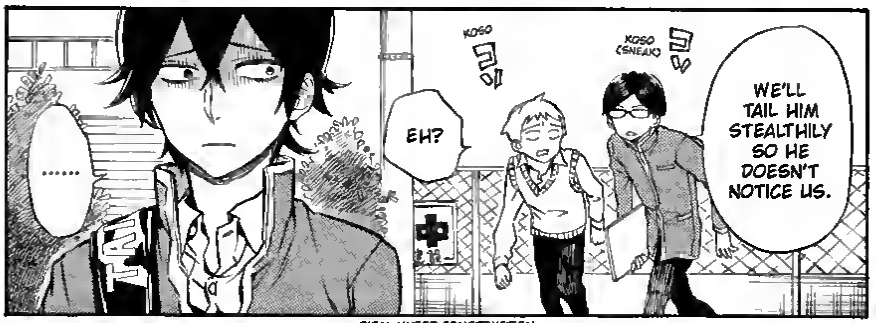
EH?
WE'LL CATCH THE STALKER WHO'S BEEN BOTHERING HANDA-KUN!
NOW, THIS IS A JOB FOR OUR HANDA ARMY!


ザ・ハンダ マジック
THE HANDA MAGIC
THE TIME HAS COME WHEN WE CAN BE HELPFUL TO HANDA!
POKA (JAB)
SHI (CRACK)
I CAN PUT MY SKILLS TO USE AGAIN.
FOR HANDA SAKE


EH?
UH!
LET'S DO OUR BEST, YUKICCHI!
THAT DECIDED, IT'S TIME FOR A STRATEGY MEETING.
MAP
BABA (RUSTLE)
FOR HANDA'S SAKE

SURE...
TH-THIS IS...
...THE START OF ANOTHER VICIOUS CIRCLE.

THE NEXT DAY
RUF!
IN ORDER TO SHAKE THE STALKER...
...HANDA-KUN TAKES ONE OF TWO ROUTES ON HIS WAY HOME.
...AND TSUKKUN AND REO-KUN...
...WILL FORM TWO TEAMS TO COVER EACH ROUTE.
ME AND YUKI-KUN...
GURU
GURU (SOFTER)
ARF!
ARF!
TSUKKUN, YOU'RE SCARY WHEN YOU'RE MAD.
WE'LL CATCH THAT STALKER ASSHOLE AND BEAT THE EVER-LOVING CRAP OUT OF HIM!
H-N-D! GO! FIGHT! WIN!
OKAY, HUDDLE UP!
THEY WERE JUST SO ENTHUSIASTIC THAT I COULDN'T SAY ANYTHING.



SIGN: UNDER CONSTRUCTION

IDIOT!
YOU'RE A DUMB SHIT LOWER THAN A WOOLLY WORM!
IF WE'RE PROTECTING HIM FROM A STALKER, SHOULDN'T WE WALK ALONGSIDE HIM INSTEAD?

BUT WAIT, DID YOU JUST CASUALLY INSULT ME?
I SEE, SO THAT'S YOUR EXCUSE.
THE HANDA ARMY SUPPORTS HIM FROM THE SHADOWS.
IT'D BE PRESUMPTUOUS TO SAY WE'RE PROTECTING HANDA-KUN!

!?
GASA (RUSTLE)
GASA
WHO'S OVER THERE?
NO WAY! THERE'S ACTUALLY A STALKER?
ZO (SHIVER)
OH, IT'S JUST MIYOKO KINJOU FROM OUR CLASS.
WHEW!
DON'T ACT RELIEVED! SHE SEEMS REALLY SHADY!
.....

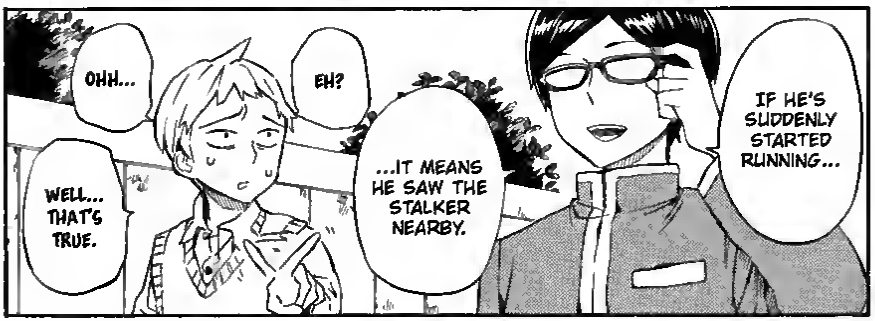
NO, REALLY! HER EYES ARE CLEARLY OMINOUS!
OH PLEASE, THAT GIRL'S HARMLESS.
IF ANYONE'S THE STALKER, IT'S HER!
SEE!? SHE RAN AWAY!
ZA
ZA
ZA
ZA
THIS IS HER PATROLLING FOR PROBLEMATIC FANS.
SHE REPRESENTS THE HANDA-KUN FANDOM.
AND NOT THAT LONG AGO, SHE WAS A PERFECTLY NORMAL GIRL...
HER NICKNAME IS ERASER.
KYAH!
KYAH!
NOO!
SHE'LL CONSIGN TO OBLIVION ANY GIRL ATTEMPTING TO RUSH AHEAD AND GET CLOSER TO HANDA-KUN.
Handa

OH!
ISN'T THAT...
GUESS HE'S NOT COMING THIS WAY TODAY.
THE REO-TSUKKUN ROUTE
...THE LIBRARY REP?
I'VE SNUCK OUT A LIBRARY RECOMMEN-DATION FOR HANDA-KUN.
SECRET WRITINGS
HEH HEH...
ERASER
ZA
MWE HEH HEH...
I'LL AMBUSH HIM AND GIVE HIM THE BOOKS.

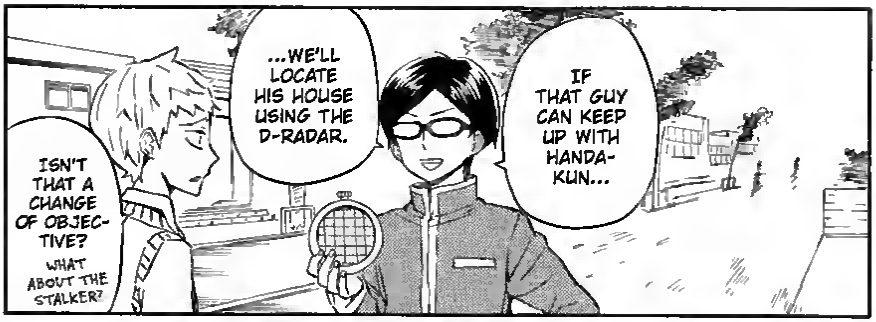
SHE WAS TRYING TO RUSH AHEAD AND GET CLOSER TO HANDA-SAN. HER ERASURE'S INEVITABLE.
HANG ON A MINUTE!! THE LIBRARY REP'S BEEN CAPTURED!
GYURU
GYURU (ENTWINE)
ERASER
KYAHH!
SU (SWIIF)
HANDA HASN'T COME THIS WAY.
KYAHH!
DO WE GO MEET UP WITH AIZAWA?
NOoOo!
PHIN (FLASH)
GASP!
JUST NOW, SOME-ONE WAS WATCHING US.
WHAT'S WRONG, TSUK-KUN?
DA (DASH)
AFTER THEM!

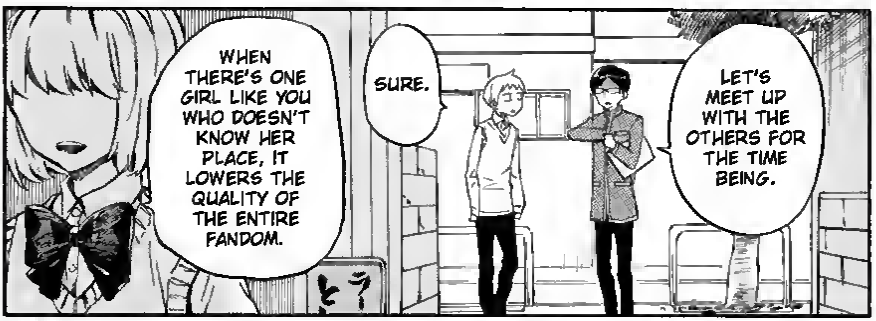
THAT PRESENCE HAD TO BE THE STALKER!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
AIZAWA-KUN, DO YOU KNOW WHERE HANDA-KUN'S HOUSE IS?
.....NO.
I HAVEN'T YET MANAGED TO ESCORT HIM ALL THE WAY HOME.
COULDN'T YOU FIND IT BY CHECKING THE SCHOOL DATABASE?
OH. SORRY, AIZAWA-KUN. I JUST ASSUMED YOU COULD DO THAT.
SHALL I HAVE TONS OF MYSTERY JUNK MAIL SENT TO YOUR HOUSE!?
WHY, YOU!! YOU EXPECT ME TO BEHAVE LIKE A CORRUPT BULK MAIL SERVICE!?

...TAILING ME.
MAN... THERE'S AN AWFUL LOT OF THEM TODAY...
GIII (CREAK)
GIII
?
?
?
...THEY COULD BRING HARM TO MY FAMILY TOO.
BUT IF THEY FIND MY HOUSE...
I'M SO SCARED!
WHAT'LL I DO IF THEY WIND UP ATTACKING ME IN A DESERTED ALLEY?
GIII (GRIP)
...THERE'S MY PROMISE TO MEET UP WITH KAWAFUJI TODAY.
ABOVE ALL ELSE...
...I HAVE TO ESCAPE.
OH!
DA (DASH)
EVEN IF IT KILLS ME...

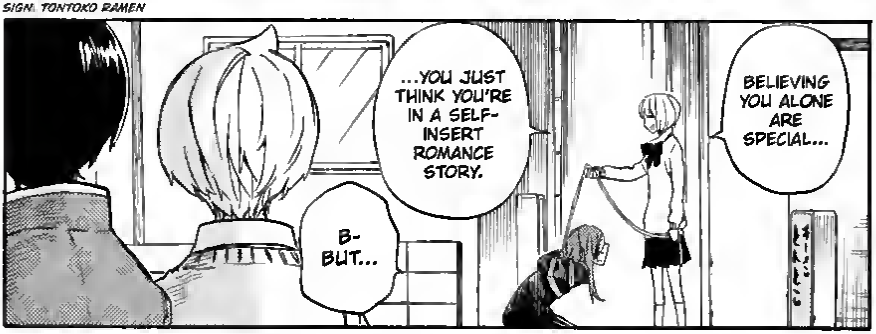


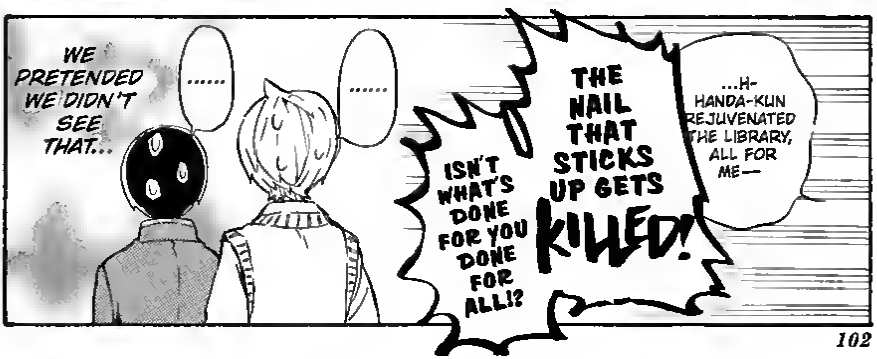
SHIRT: HIGASHINO


ISN'T THAT A CHANGE OF OBJECTIVE?
WHAT ABOUT THE STALKER?
...WE'LL LOCATE HIS HOUSE USING THE D-RADAR.
IF THAT GUY CAN KEEP UP WITH HANDA-KUN...

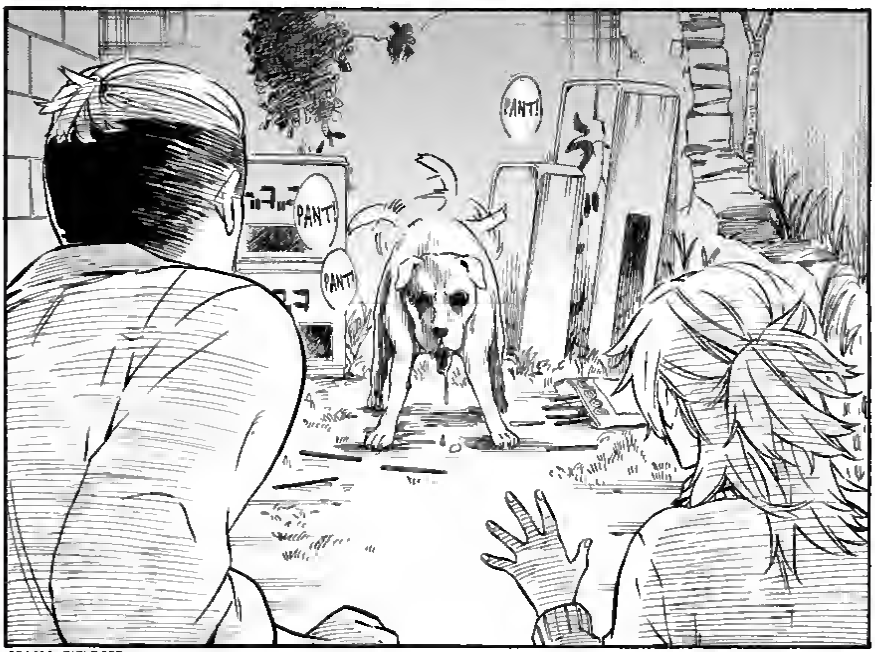

WHEN THERE'S ONE GIRL LIKE YOU WHO DOESN'T KNOW HER PLACE, IT LOWERS THE QUALITY OF THE ENTIRE FANDOM.
SURE.
LET'S MEET UP WITH THE OTHERS FOR THE TIME BEING.

SIGN. TONTOKO RAMEN

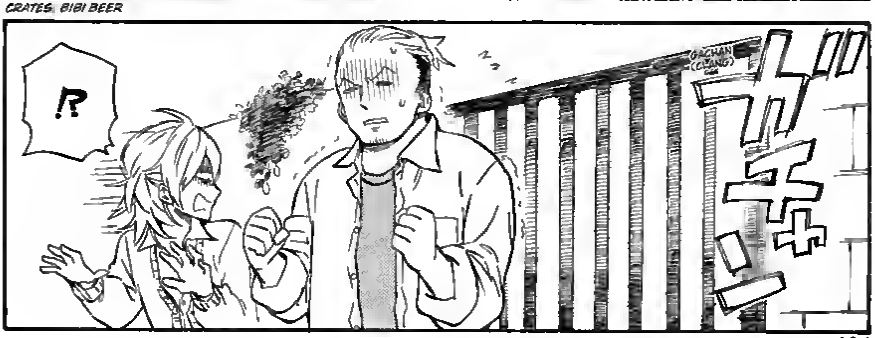



WE PRETENDED WE DIDN'T SEE THAT...
.....
.....
ISN'T WHAT'S DONE FOR YOU DONE FOR ALL!?
THE NAIL THAT STICKS UP GETS KILLED!
...H-HANDA-KUN REJUVENATED THE LIBRARY, ALL FOR ME—

MEAN-WHILE (REO & TSUKKUN)
THAT ASSHOLE STALKER...
... SHOULD'VE COME THIS WAY.
TSUKKUN, WAS THAT REALLY THE STALKER?
I CAN RECOGNIZE THE PRESENCE OF SOMEONE DANGEROUS FROM EXPERIENCE.
AND THERE'S AN UNSPEAKABLE EVIL AFTER HANDA-SAN.
WHAA!?
WE WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST SOMEONE THAT DEADLY!
GASP!
TSUK-KUN!
IT'S HIM!
OVER THERE!
SU (SHIN)
NO TRESPASSING



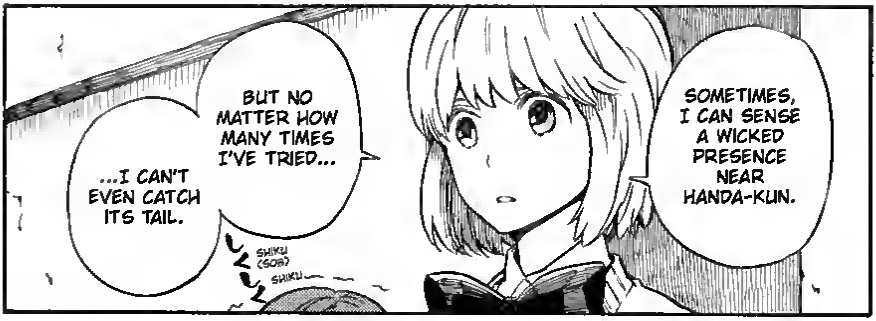
CRATES. BIBI BEER

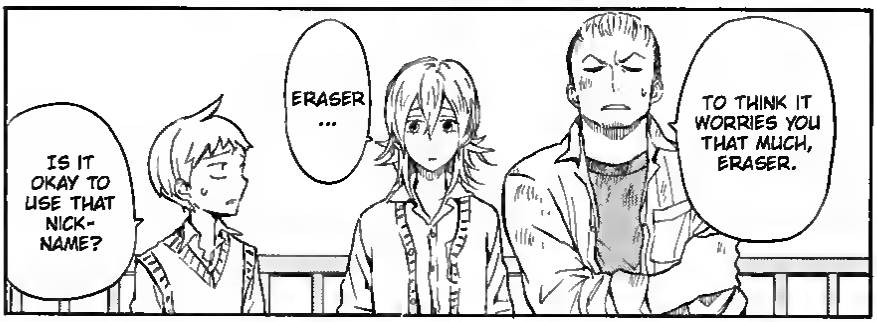


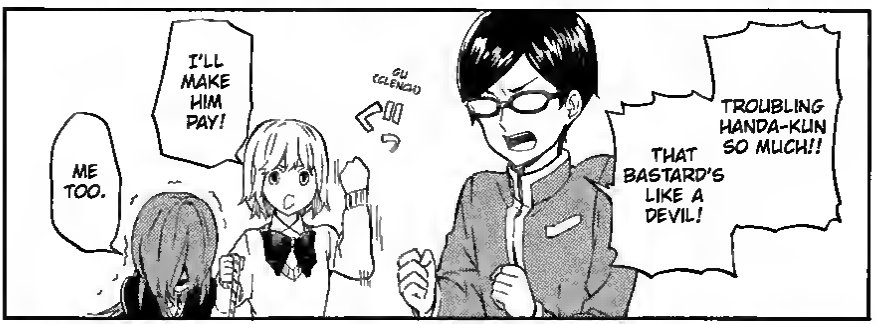
HEEEY!
THAT JERK!
WHEN DID HE...!?
EH!?
WHAT IS THIS!?
JOSIE-CHAN!
THAT DOG'S ALWAYS RUNNING OFF!
RAWF!
GAAAAH!
HANDAAA!! WHERE'S HANDA!?
KYAHH! I'M SO SORRY!
JOSIE-CHAAAN!
KAKU (JUMP)
KAKU
KAKU
KAKU
GAAAAH!
OH, DASH HIGASHINO IS GETTING CLOSER.
I WONDER IF HE CAUGHT HANDA-KUN.
PIKOOON
PIKOOON (BEEP BOOP)
WOEFUL SCREAMS ARE COMING FROM EVERY DIRECTION...
RUN AWAY!! RUN!

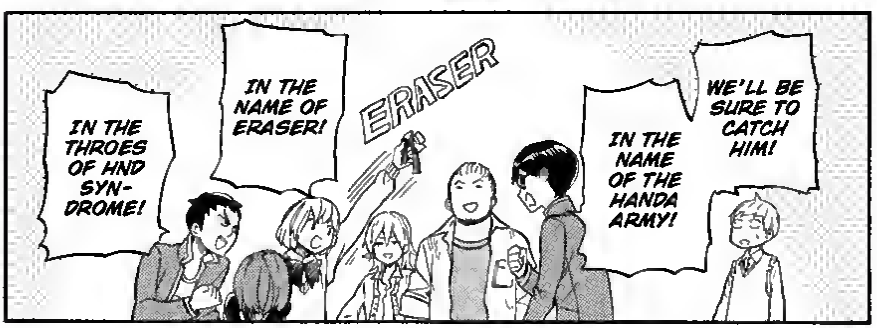
DASH!
しゅん
SHUN (SNIFF)
HANDA!
HOW'D IT GO? DID YOU CATCH HANDA-KUN?
WH—
WHAT THE...?
I PURSUED HIM WITH ALL MY MIGHT...
.....NO.
STOP IT, AKAWA-KUN!
DON'T LOOK AT HIM WITH SUCH SCORN!
CHAGRIN
DASH CAN'T DO SUDDEN TURNS...
...BUT THEN HE TURNED.

AI-ZAWA!
SAY... LET'S GIVE UP ALREADY.
SIGH...
FOR NOW, WE'LL MEET UP WITH REO-KUN AND TSUKKUN.
TSUKKUN PROTECTED ME!
!?
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU TWO?
SOME-THING REALLY DID HAPPEN.
THE STALKER SHOWED UP!
WHAT!?
HANDA-SAN'S IN DANGER.
ERASER!
EH? WHAT HAPPENED?
SHIKU (CLICK)
SHIKU
SHIKU
I KNOW ABOUT THAT STALKER TOO.


SOMETIMES, I CAN SENSE A WICKED PRESENCE NEAR HANDA-KUN.
BUT NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I'VE TRIED...
...I CAN'T EVEN CATCH ITS TAIL.
SHIKU (SOB)
SHIKU


TO THINK IT WORRIES YOU THAT MUCH, ERASER.
ERASER ...
IS IT OKAY TO USE THAT NICK-NAME?


TROUBLING HANDA-KUN SO MUCH!!
GU (CLENCH)
THAT BASTARD'S LIKE A DEVIL!
I'LL MAKE HIM PAY!
ME TOO.


WE'LL BE SURE TO CATCH HIM!
IN THE NAME OF THE HANDA ARMY!
ERASER
IN THE NAME OF ERASER!
IN THE THROES OF HND SYN-DROME!

HUFF...
HUFF..
LOOKS LIKE I MANAGED TO LOSE THEM.
LET'S STOP LETTING DOGS ROAM UNLEASHED.
THE YOUTH ASSOCIATION
UP I GO.
HONESTLY, TODAY'S AN UNLUCKY DAY.
CRATE BIBI BEER
ONCE I GET OVER THIS WALL...
...THE CAFÉ IS RIGHT THERE.

BLAGH!

HANDA-KUN!
H—
JUST WHAT SHOULD WE DO AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
BLINDING...
THE BACK-LIGHT IS...
HOW SUBLIME!
THEY'VE ALREADY PROSTRATED THEM-SELVES.
WHAT ABOUT THE GIRLS?
...WHY HAVE YOU REVEALED YOUR-SELF?
HANDA-KUN...

WHY ARE THEY HERE?
KAWAFUJI IS RIGHT OVER THERE.
マウンテン
MY GOAL IS RIGHT THERE.
SIGN: CAFÉ MOUNTAIN
EVEN THOUGH I ALWAYS CAUSE HIM TROUB—
EVEN THOUGH I'M WORTH-LESS.
HE MUST BE WAITING FOR ME.
Menu
NO, WAIT...

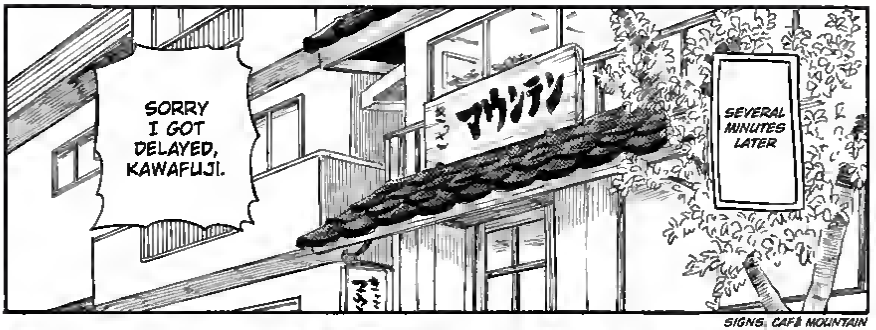
WHY SHOULD I HAVE TO RUN FROM PLACE TO PLACE?
THIS IS ALL BECAUSE THEY'VE BEEN CAUSING ME TROUBLE FROM THE START.
BLAGH!
I DROPPED A CONTACT.
ME TOO.
WHAT HANDA HEARS
HILARIOUS.
YEAH, IDIOTS JUST LOVE HIGH PLACES.
ALL FOR...
SO EMO.
BLAARGH!
...SUCH SELFISH AND CRUEL PEOPLE AS THESE.
HEY, GET A LIFE!
I WON'T BE COWED BY THEM ANYMORE.

WHAT DID I EVER DO TO YOU!?
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, FOLLOWING ME AROUND DAY AFTER DAY?
THANKS TO YOU GUYS, I MAY LOSE MY PRECIOUS FRIEND!
HANDA-KUN...
GO AWAY!
DON'T COME NEAR ME AGAIN!

HANDA-KUN!
AH!
HANDA!
BA (LEAP)
I'M DONE HERE!
H-HE WAS ANGRY ...
HANDA-KUN...
FOR THE FIRST TIME, HANDA-KUN SPOKE HIS MIND RIGHT TO THEIR FACES.
HAVE THEY REALIZED THAT THEY WERE THE ONES WHO'D RUN HIM DOWN?
I WONDER WHAT EACH OF THEM MUST BE THINKING...
HEH! HEH HEH HEH!
OR ELSE...

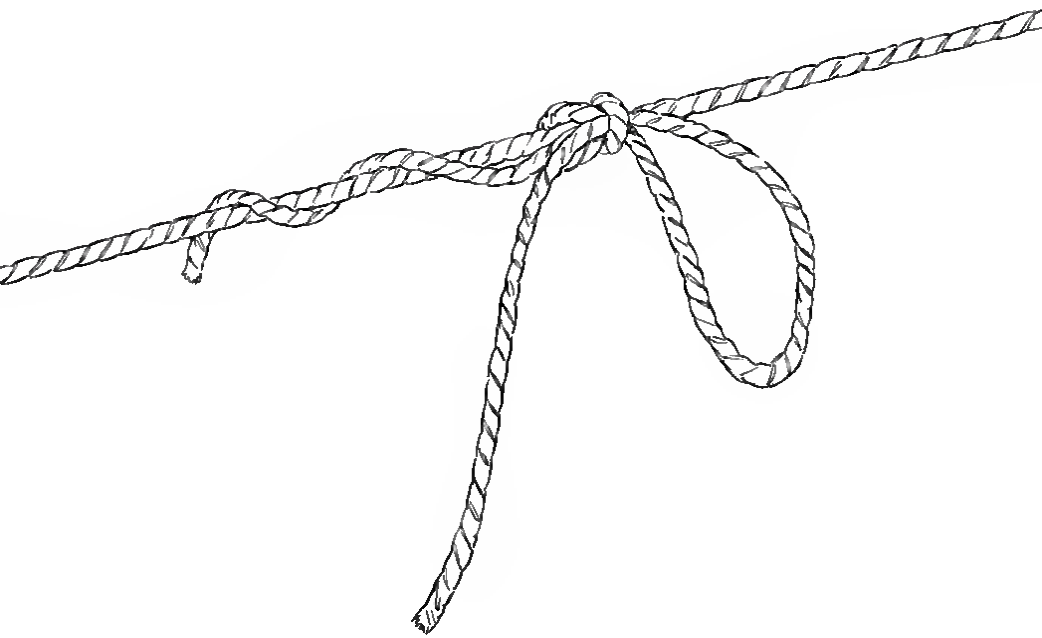
AIZAWA-KUN!?
WAH-HA-HA-HA-HA!
ばっ
DID YOU HEAR THAT, YOU STALKER!?
THAT JUST NOW WAS HANDA-KUN'S DECLARATION OF WAR!
WE CAN TELL!
YOU'RE HIDING OUT THERE SOME-WHERE.
CALLING US HIS PRECIOUS FRIENDS!
I'M NOT WORTHY! I'M NOT WORTHY OF THOSE WORDS!
UH... AIZAWA-KUN, THAT WASN'T...
OH... SO THAT'S YOUR TAKE ON IT.

I'LL HELP OUT TOO!
SI (SNAP)
ME TOO...
YOU VICIOUS STALKER!
THE HANDA ARMY WILL CONTINUE TO PROTECT AND SUPPORT HANDA-KUN!
UH...HEY, GUYS...
YEAHH!
UNTIL THE DAY WHEN HANDA-KUN CAN WALK HOME WITHOUT FEAR!
THAT'S NOT WHAT...
OKAY, HUDDLE UP!
HANDA-KUN... DIDN'T GET THROUGH TO THEM AT ALL...
GO! FIGHT! WIN!
H-N-D!



SIGNS: CAFÉ MOUNTAIN

OH, OKAY. ANY INJURIES?
I SORT OF PLAYED WITH A DOG ON THE WAY HERE.
PE (BRUSH)
OH YEAH...
DOGS IN HEAT SURE ARE SCARY.
TWO SOME-ONES.
WELL, MAYBE TO SOMEONE ELSE...
TODAY, I ACTUALLY WENT AND TOLD THEM OFF!
BUT ANYWAY, LISTEN TO THIS!
HM? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU GUYS REALLY ARE WAY TOO FUNNY.
きっさアウンテン

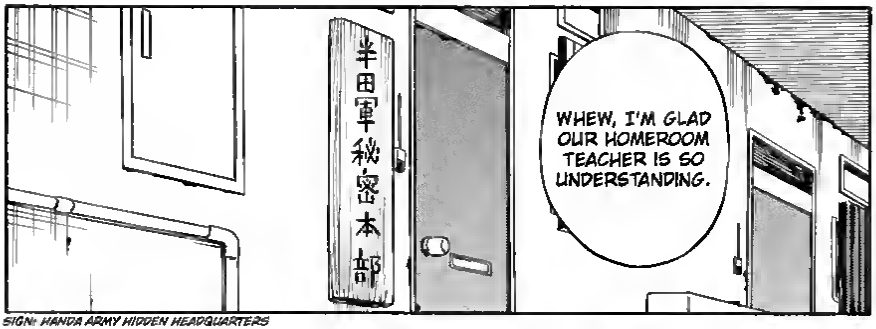


FOR STUDENTS, THERE IS AN EVENT THAT CANNOT BE AVOIDED.
THEY CONSIDER IT THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME, A MILESTONE OF THEIR HIGH SCHOOL CAREER.
I CAN'T WAIT!
HARD TO CHOOSE?
YEAH.
IT IS ONE THAT STUDENTS GENERALLY LOOK FORWARD TO.
THERE'S PLENTY TO DO BESIDES GET EXCITED.
NOW, NOW. SETTLE DOWN, EVERYONE.
BUT TO ME, IT IS THE ULTIMATE HINDRANCE OF A LIFETIME.
YOU'VE BEEN MAKING PREPARATIONS, I HOPE?

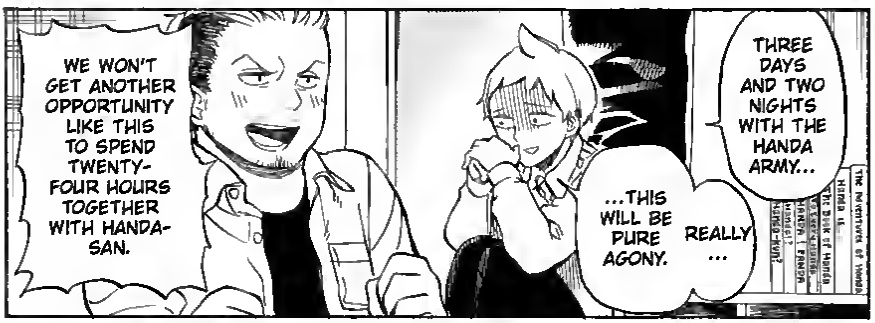
YES. THE CLASS TRIP.
...YOU'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO KYOTO.
DON'T JUST GO NUTS BECAUSE...

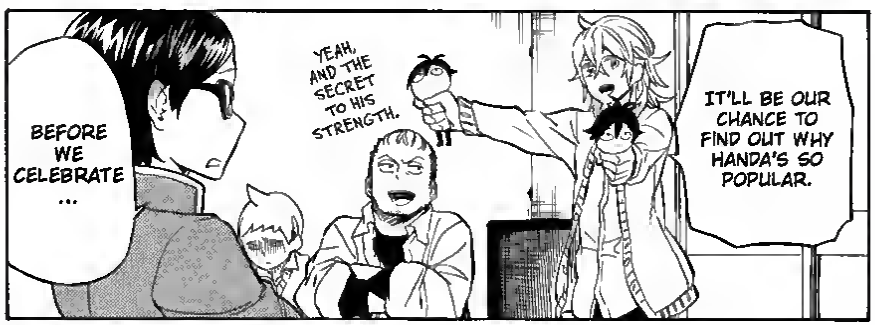
MY GROUP OF FIVE CONTAINS —
PARA (FLIP)
パラ
Class Trip Guidebook: in Kyoto
NOT ONLY THAT...
A FLASHY FASHION PLATE...
SOWAA (EXCITABLE)
ソワァ
...A TRUANT ...
SOWA
ソワ
SOWA
ソワ
...A SERPENT ...

UM... SENSEI?
...AND LASTLY ...
Class Trip Guidebook
COULD I PLEASE CHANGE GROUPS?
HA HA HA!
UH, PLEASE DON'T LAUGH IT OFF.
...THE GUY WHO HATES ME THE MOST.
I HAVE NOTHING BUT BAD PREMONITIONS ABOUT THIS.
I WON'T BE COWED BY YOU. I WON'T!
GIGGLE (GIRL)
DON'T WANT TO BE IN THE SAME GROUP AS ME?
WHAT'D I EVER DO TO YOU?
I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL...
...BUT I EXPECT YOU'LL HANDLE IT.
DON'T LAY THIS ON ME!
MY CLASS TRIP'S OVER BEFORE IT'S BEGUN!



SIGN: HANDA ARMY HIDDEN HEADQUARTERS

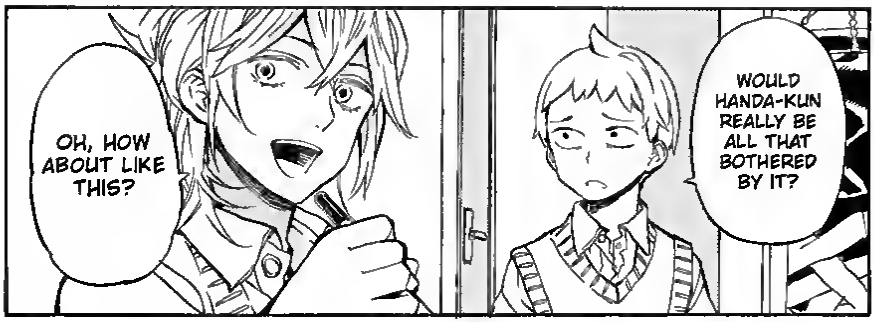

WE WON'T GET ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY LIKE THIS TO SPEND TWENTY-FOUR HOURS TOGETHER WITH HANDA-SAN.
...THIS WILL BE PURE AGONY.
REALLY...
THREE DAYS AND TWO NIGHTS WITH THE HANDA ARMY...

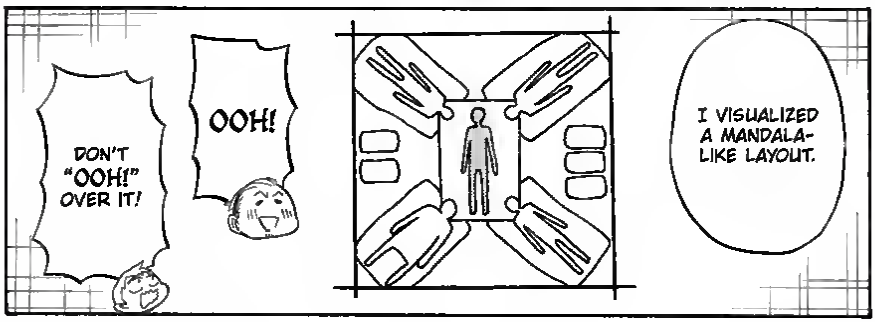


LEAVING THE DAYTIME GROUP ACTIVITIES TO HANDA-KUN'S DISCRETION...
...THE PROBLEM IS WHEN ALL FIVE OF US ARE IN THE ROOM.
HOW DO WE DEAL WITH HANDA-KUN THEN?
REMEMBER, HANDA-KUN LOVES HIS SOLITUDE.
OH YEAH!! SO IT'S POSSIBLE WE MIGHT GET ON HIS NERVES?
WE'LL DO WHAT WE CAN TO AVOID BEING A NUISANCE TO HANDA-KUN...
...WHILE LENDING SUPPORT TO ENSURE THAT HE HAS A PLEASANT EXPERIENCE.
LET'S MAKE IT SO THAT, AFTER THE TRIP IS OVER, WE CAN SEE HANDA-KUN SMILE AND SAY, "I'M SO HAPPY!"
THEY'RE LOSING SIGHT OF THE POINT OF A CLASS TRIP.

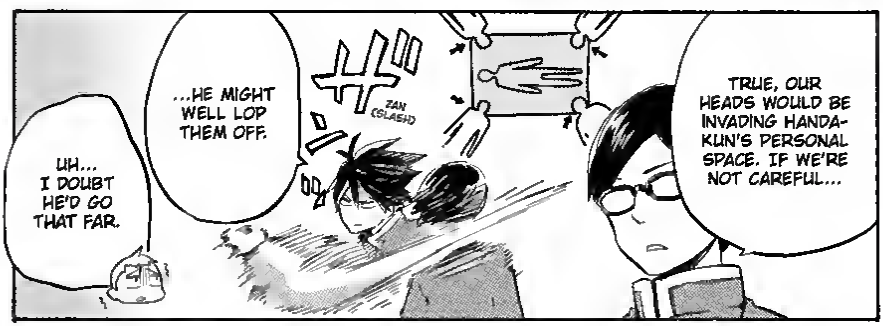
WHITEBOARD TIME!!
TO THAT END, WHAT MATTERS MOST IS OUR POSITIONING WITHIN THE ROOM.
THIS IS A DIAGRAM OF THE LAYOUT OF OUR ROOM AT THE INN...
Luggage Space
...WITH ONE POSSIBLE FUTON ARRANGEMENT.
YEAH, THAT LAY-OUT FEELS KINDA IM-BALANCED.
LIKE THERE'S AN ODD MAN OUT.
THAT'S NOT MY POINT!
WOULD IT BE RIGHT FOR US TO SLEEP PILLOW-TO-PILLOW WITH HANDA-KUN!?
!?
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, THAT DOES FEEL INCREDIBLY RUDE.

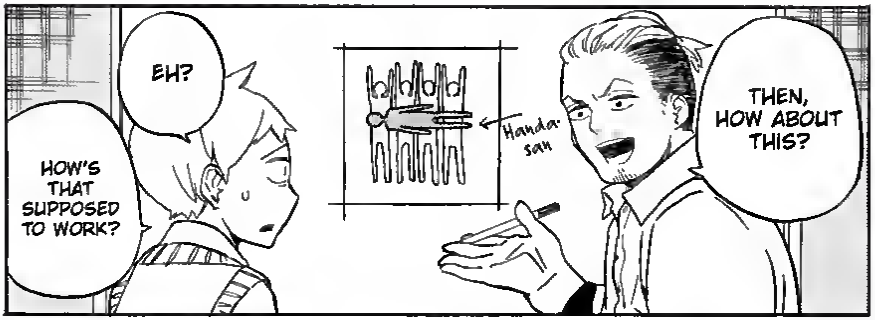
TO ILLUSTRATE JUST HOW RUDE IT WOULD BE, FOR EASIER UNDER-STANDING—
GO ON, IT'S YOUR TURN NEXT.
SENSEI'S GONNA CHECK ON US!
ABOUT THIS MUCH.
OKAY, HOW ABOUT IF WE DO LIKE THIS?
キュッキュー
KYU (SQUEAK) KYU
THAT WORKS!
Handa-san
HOWEVER, HAVING THE FOUR OF US SLEEPING IN A ROW WOULD BE FAIRLY SQUALID.
YOU'RE BULKY ENOUGH TO TAKE UP TWO SPACES, TSUKKUN.
WE CAN'T LET HANDA-SAN WITNESS SUCH SQUALID CONDITIONS.

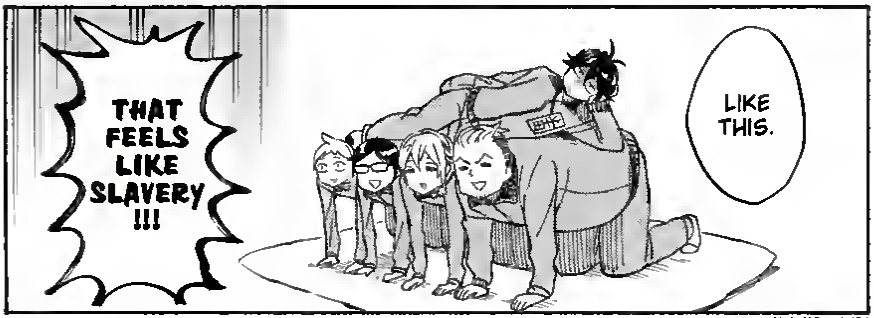

OH, HOW ABOUT LIKE THIS?
WOULD HANDA-KUN REALLY BE ALL THAT BOTHERED BY IT?


DON'T "OOH!" OVER IT!
OOH!
I VISUALIZED A MANDALA-LIKE LAYOUT.

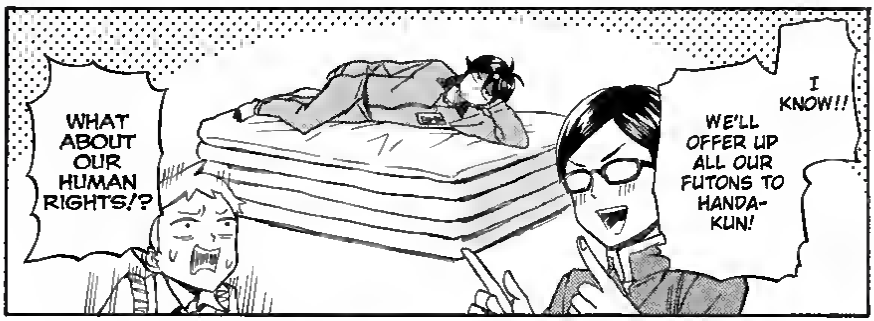
THAT WOULD DEFINITELY BE A NUISANCE TO HANDA-KUN!
SHALL WE CALL OURSELVES THE "FOUR DEVAS" FROM NOW ON?
YEAH, ISN'T IT?
THAT'S PRETTY COOL, KINDA LIKE WE'RE THE FOUR HANDA DEVAS.

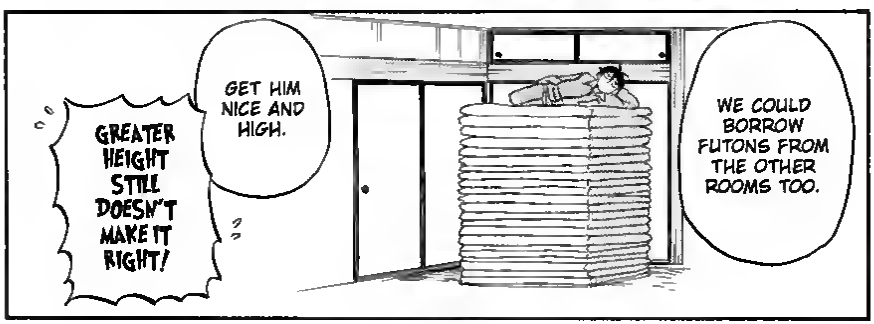

UH... I DOUBT HE'D GO THAT FAR.
...HE MIGHT WELL LOP THEM OFF.
ZAN (SLASH)
TRUE, OUR HEADS WOULD BE INVADING HANDA-KUN'S PERSONAL SPACE. IF WE'RE NOT CAREFUL...





NAME TAG: HANDA

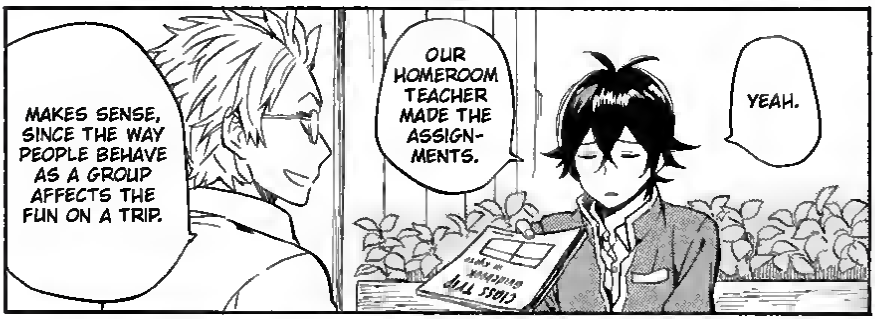


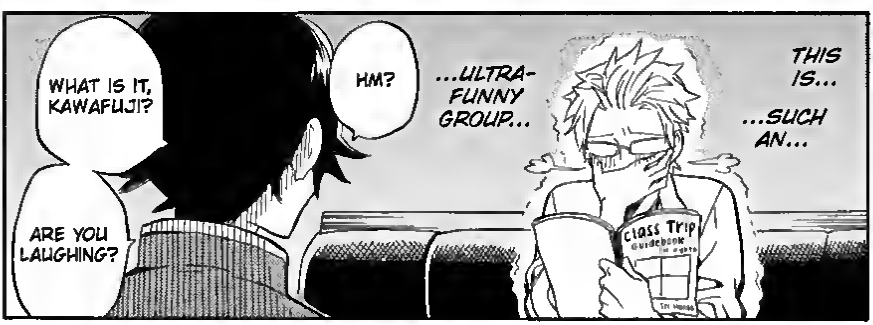


COME ON, THERE ARE NO BABIES ON A CLASS TRIP.
FROM WHAT I REMEMBER ...
...A GOOD INN SHOULD HAVE BABY BEDS AVAILABLE.
I WANT TO USE IT THIS WAY.
WHY NOT DO THIS NORMALLY?
HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO MAKE SURE THAT HANDA IS SATISFIED?
YOU KEEP SHOOTING DOWN ALL OUR IDEAS!
I'D SAY DOING THINGS NORMALLY WOULD BE MORE COMFORTABLE FOR HANDA-KUN.
TH-THAT'S TRUE.
THE HANDA-KUN WE KNOW ISN'T SOME-ONE PROUD AND HAUGHTY, RIGHT?
TRASH BAG

I UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS ON THAT.
THOUGH, I THINK HE'D HATE IT HIMSELF.
MM-HM
MM-HM
BUT I WANT MY ESTEEMED HANDA-SAN IN AN AT LEAST SLIGHTLY BETTER POSITION THAN ME.
GOOD POINT.
HMM!
HAVING FUTONS MEANS THAT...
...THERE MUST BE A LINEN CLOSET.
GARA (SQUEAK)
カパ
うっ
NO, IT DOESN'T!
HE ISN'T DORA●-MON, YOU GUYS!
IT SURE DOES!
THAT SETTLES IT!

SIGN: CAFÉ MOUNTAIN


YEAH.
OUR HOMEROOM TEACHER MADE THE ASSIGN-MENTS.
MAKES SENSE, SINCE THE WAY PEOPLE BEHAVE AS A GROUP AFFECTS THE FUN ON A TRIP.



ASSUMING WE ACT INDEPENDENTLY WHEN WE'RE OUT AND ABOUT...
...THE PROBLEM IS THE ROOM.
SHUU (SWIP)
I'LL BE A PERFECT RAT IN A TRAP.
FOR NOW, I PLAN ON CAMPING IN THIS CORNER...
SASASA (SWISH)
...AND NOT TALKING TO ANYBODY ALL DAY.
Danger Zone
UH... JUST WHAT ATTITUDE ARE YOU TAKING TOWARD THIS TRIP?
THE CLASS TRIP IS A CHANCE FOR YOU TO DEEPEN YOUR INTERACTIONS WITH GUYS YOU HAVEN'T ASSOCIATED WITH IN THE PAST.
EH?
A FRESH ENVIRONMENT CAN RESULT IN DIFFERENT RELATIONSHIPS BUDDING.
IT'S A CHANCE TO MAKE FRIENDS.
M—
"MAKE FRIENDS" !?

YOUR GROUP-MATES ARE ALL VERY CUNNING.
HOWEVER MUCH YOU TRY TO GET THROUGH THIS BY ACTING LIKE SOMEONE YOU'RE NOT...
...THEY'LL KEEP LATCHING ON RELENT-LESSLY.
THEY'RE GOING TO ASK YOU ALL SORTS OF QUESTIONS ABOUT...
...STUFF LIKE WHICH TEACHERS YOU HATE OR WHICH GIRLS YOU LIKE.
B-BUT WHAT REASON COULD THEY HAVE FOR WANTING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ME?
FINDING MY WEAK-NESSES?
NO, NOT THAT.
THEY WANT TO BE YOUR FRIENDS.
BE MY FRIENDS !?

...THERE'S NOTHING INTERESTING I COULD TALK ABOUT.
NO, WAIT... EVEN IF, BY SOME MIRACLE, THEY DO ALL WANT TO BE MY FRIENDS...
TAKE THIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE FRIENDS.
NO, YOU'RE AN INTERESTING GUY. HAVE CONFIDENCE.
SO THAT'S IT...
ONES BESIDES ME.
UH-OH, HE'S TAKING THINGS THE WRONG WAY AGAIN...
HE CAN'T JUST SPEND ALL HIS TIME LOOKING AFTER ME.
しゅん
SHUN (WILT)
KAWA-FUJI HAS LOTS OF FRIENDS.

I WILL MAKE FRIENDS ON THE CLASS TRIP!
I'LL DO IT!
ALL RIGHT!
AND IT WON'T BE JUST ONE OR TWO FRIENDS.
GREAT, THAT'S THE SPIRIT.
THAT'S NOT HAPPENING...
I'LL MAKE A HUNDRED!
YEAH, DO YOUR BEST.
WAIT FOR ME, KYOTO!!

AND SO...
...ASPIRATIONS IN THEIR HEARTS...
KYOTO GUIDEBOOK
...EACH WITH THEIR OWN...
CONCEPTUAL DIAGRAM
THE MAJOR EVENT OF ONE'S HIGH SCHOOL CAREER.
...THEY PREPARE TO SET OUT ON THE CLASS TRIP—
NEXT TIME, WE'LL CHARGE INTO THE "HANDA-KUN & THE CLASS TRIP" ARC!

TO BE CONTINUED IN HANDA-KUN CHAPTERS, COMING OUT EVERY MONTH!

TRANSLATION NOTES

COMMON HONORIFICS
no honorific: Indicates familiarity or closeness; if used without permission or reason, addressing someone in this manner would constitute an insult.
-san: The Japanese equivalent of Mr./Mrs./Miss. If a situation calls for politeness, this is the fail-safe honorific.
-sama: Conveys great respect; may also indicate that the social status of the speaker is lower than that of the addressee.
-kun: Used most often when referring to boys; this indicates affection or familiarity. Occasionally used by older men among their peers, but it may also be used by anyone referring to a person of lower standing.
-chan: An affectionate honorific indicating familiarity; used mostly in reference to girls, also used in reference to cute persons or animals of either gender.
-sensei: A Japanese term of respect commonly used for teachers, but can also refer to doctors, writers, and artists.

Calligraphy: Japanese calligraphy has a long history and tradition, with roots stemming from ancient China. One of the traditions carried over was the Chinese expression of the "Four Treasures," which refers to the brush, ink, paper, and inkstone used in calligraphy. Traditionally, an inkstick—solidified ink—is ground against an inkstone filled with water in order to produce ink with which to write. This time-consuming process helped to teach patience, which is important in the art of calligraphy. However, modern advances have developed a bottled liquid ink, commonly used by beginners and within the Japanese school system.

PAGE 6
Hondo Hidden Headquarters: In Japanese, it's actually "*Hondo Himitsu Honbu*" (Honda Secret Headquarters).

PAGE 25
Emo(tion): The Japanese is *kimochi* ("feeling"), the end of which happens to rub off so it looks like *kimoi* (slang for "creepy"/"gross").

PAGE 27
Beautie-Girls: The Japanese word "*bishoujo*" literally means "beautiful girl," but here it's referring to the niche genre of manga, illustrations, and games that primarily feature beautiful or cute girls, fairly often in racy or compromising situations.

Pseudo-Kansai-guy Tokoyoki-kun: Tokoyoki-kun is faking an accent from the Kansai region of Japan, in particular the city of Osaka, which has become known as a center of comedy due to comedians from there who use their regional dialect in their acts. His nickname "*Tokoyoki*" is also a stereotypical Osakan snack, consisting of a piece of octopus cooked inside a ball of batter, then served with savory toppings.

PAGE 27
"'Io": Dr. Psycho says "'Io" a lot, to match him saying "*nori*" at the end of most of his sentences in Japanese. "*Nori*" is a speaking-quirk replacement for "*desu*" or "*na da* (is)".

PAGE 31
"Preposterous pedestrian": The original was a pair of four-kanji phrases, one suiting the situation (*gongadoudan*, preposterous) and the other not (*"oudanhodou*, pedestrian crossing").

PAGE 34
Delerestial, beautful, hayish?: The original contradiction said that she speaks polite *keigo* but uses the (male) first person pronoun *ore* (harsher), or possibly *boku* (more boyish). You might recognize these from the note in Volume 3 on how Honda's speech changed from his usual one to boku while he had amnesia.

PAGE 39
"Terrif...": In Japanese, Nondo said "*kowaii*," a mash-up of the adjectives "*kowai* (scary)" and "*kawaii* (cute)."

PAGE 88
April 15th: This is Sei Hando's birthday, as identified in *BARAKAMON*.

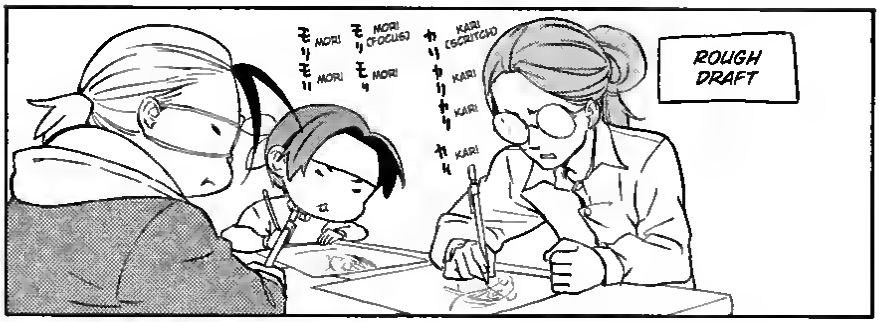
PAGE 91
"Even a dog, if it walks, will run into Hondo": Variation on a proverb that usually ends with "run into a stick," and means "Good (or bad) luck may come unexpectedly."

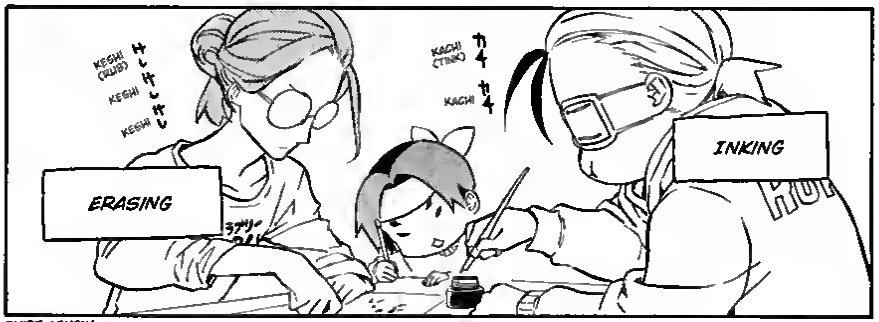
PAGE 102
"The nail that sticks up gets hilled!": Variation on the illuminating Japanese proverb about conformity, "The nail that sticks up gets hammered down."

PAGE 129
The Four Devas, a.k.a. "Four Heavenly Kings," are deities who watch over each of the four cardinal directions in Buddhist theology.

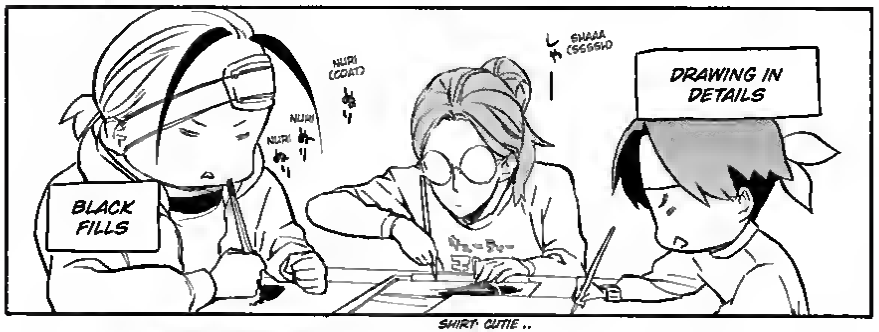
PAGE 132
"He's not Dora"mon!": Reference to the long-running kids' manga and anime series *Doraemon*, about a robot cat who comes from the future with futuristic gadgets and attempts at life lessons to help a luckless boy named Nobita. Doraemon sleeps in Nobita's futon closet. Note that the shelves in such closets are lower and sturdier than in most Western clothes closets.

WHY ARE YOU SUDDENLY INTO PRESSING FLOWERS?
HMM, WHAT KIND OF FLOWER SHALL I PRESS NEXT?
...AND ARRANGE WILDFLOWERS LIKE THIS...
WHEN I COLLECT ...
I BET THEY NEVER DREAMED IT COULD HAPPEN TO THEM....
...I THINK ABOUT HOW THESE FLOWERS PROBABLY DIDN'T EXPECT TO END UP THIS WAY.
OH CRAP... HE'S GOTTEN SICKER THAN I EVER IMAGINED.
...SO I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE WHOSE LIFE HASN'T GONE WELL.

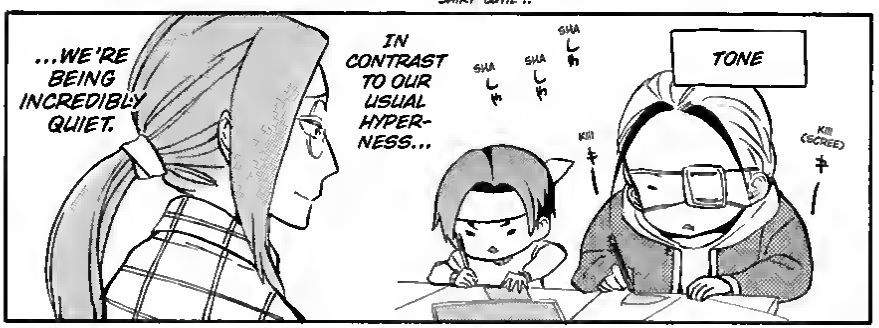




SHIRT: LOVELY.

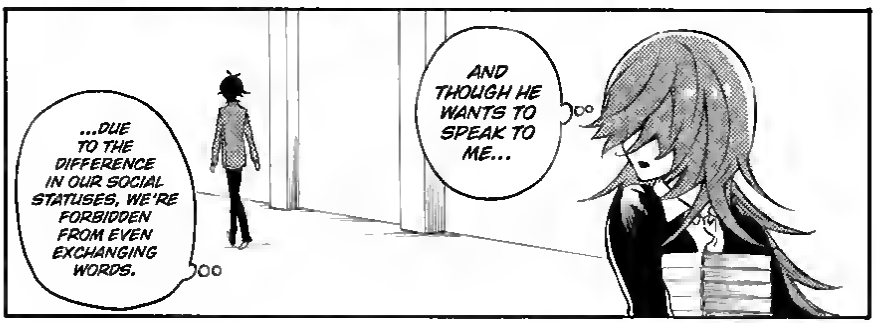


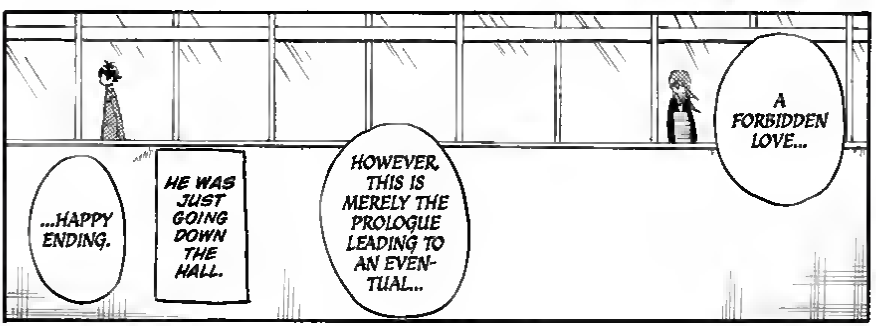
SHIRT: CUTIE ..

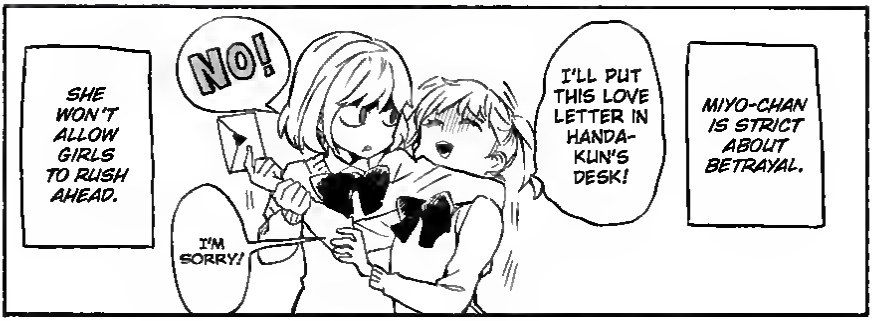


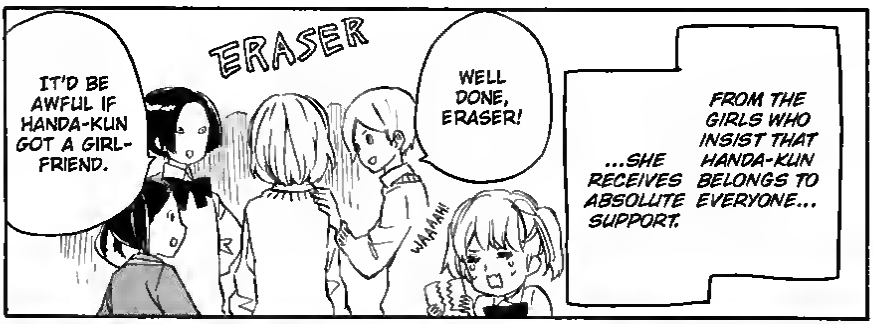
I CROSSED PATHS WITH HANDA-KUN!
AH!
SU (SUPI)

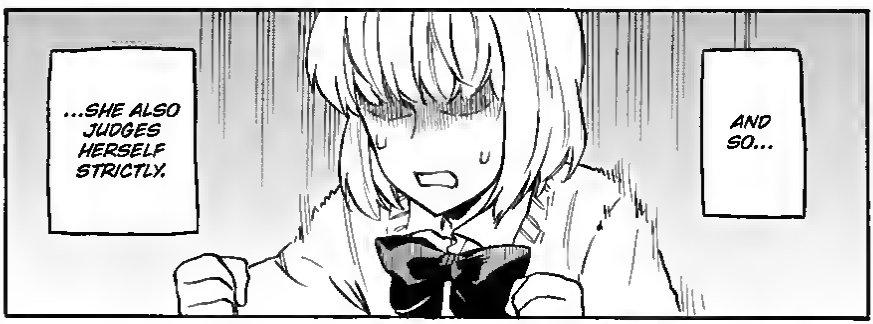
...HE CAME DOWN THIS HALLWAY...
...IN ORDER TO CROSS PATHS WITH ME?
COULD IT BE...


...DUE TO THE DIFFERENCE IN OUR SOCIAL STATUSES, WE'RE FORBIDDEN FROM EVEN EXCHANGING WORDS.
AND THOUGH HE WANTS TO SPEAK TO ME...


...HAPPY ENDING.
HE WAS JUST GOING DOWN THE HALL.
HOWEVER, THIS IS MERELY THE PROLOGUE LEADING TO AN EVEN-TUAL...
A FORBIDDEN LOVE...


SHE WON'T ALLOW GIRLS TO RUSH AHEAD.
NO!
I'M SORRY!
I'LL PUT THIS LOVE LETTER IN HANDA-KUN'S DESK!
MIYO-CHAN IS STRICT ABOUT BETRAYAL.


ERASER
IT'D BE AWFUL IF HANDA-KUN GOT A GIRL-FRIEND.
WELL DONE, ERASER!
WAAHH!
...SHE RECEIVES ABSOLUTE SUPPORT.
FROM THE GIRLS WHO INSIST THAT HANDA-KUN BELONGS TO EVERYONE...


...SHE ALSO JUDGES HERSELF STRICTLY.
AND SO...

SHE'S REALLY GLARING AT ME...
GREETING HANDA-KUN WOULD BE...
...RUSHING AHEAD! BETRAYAL! AN ACT OF TREASON!
I CAN'T!
I CAN'T! I CAN'T!

HANDA-KUN NEWS

Vol.HND

Handa-kun & BARAKAMON Specially-made Acrylic Key-holder Set

Available Via Send-away Request Form!!

Total charge of ¥1000 (+handling) | Deadline: Friday, Oct. 9th, 2015

In Monthly *Shonen Gangan* for Two Consecutive Issues: Sept. issue (now on sale) & Oct. issue (on sale 9/12)

Super-cute *Handa-kun* & BARAKAMON keyholder sets show up for send-away!! You can send away for them using the order form included in *Gangan* Sept. and Oct. issues. This is the only way they're available, so make sure to get them!

Also!! *Gangan* Sept. issue (now on sale) contains a *Handa-kun* double pack-in!!

⬆Note how Tsukkun has a slightly wider bookmark (because he's bulky) ♥

Unveiled to the public for the first time, a glasses-free Kawafuji appears in specially-designed illustrations used for a set of clear bookmarks. These also come with an overlapping book cover to hide the harsh reality (i.e. Fake Handa) of this Volume 4, making for a gorgeous double pack-in!!

Advertisement

Volume 5 of 'Handa-kun

The Kyoto Class Trip Arc

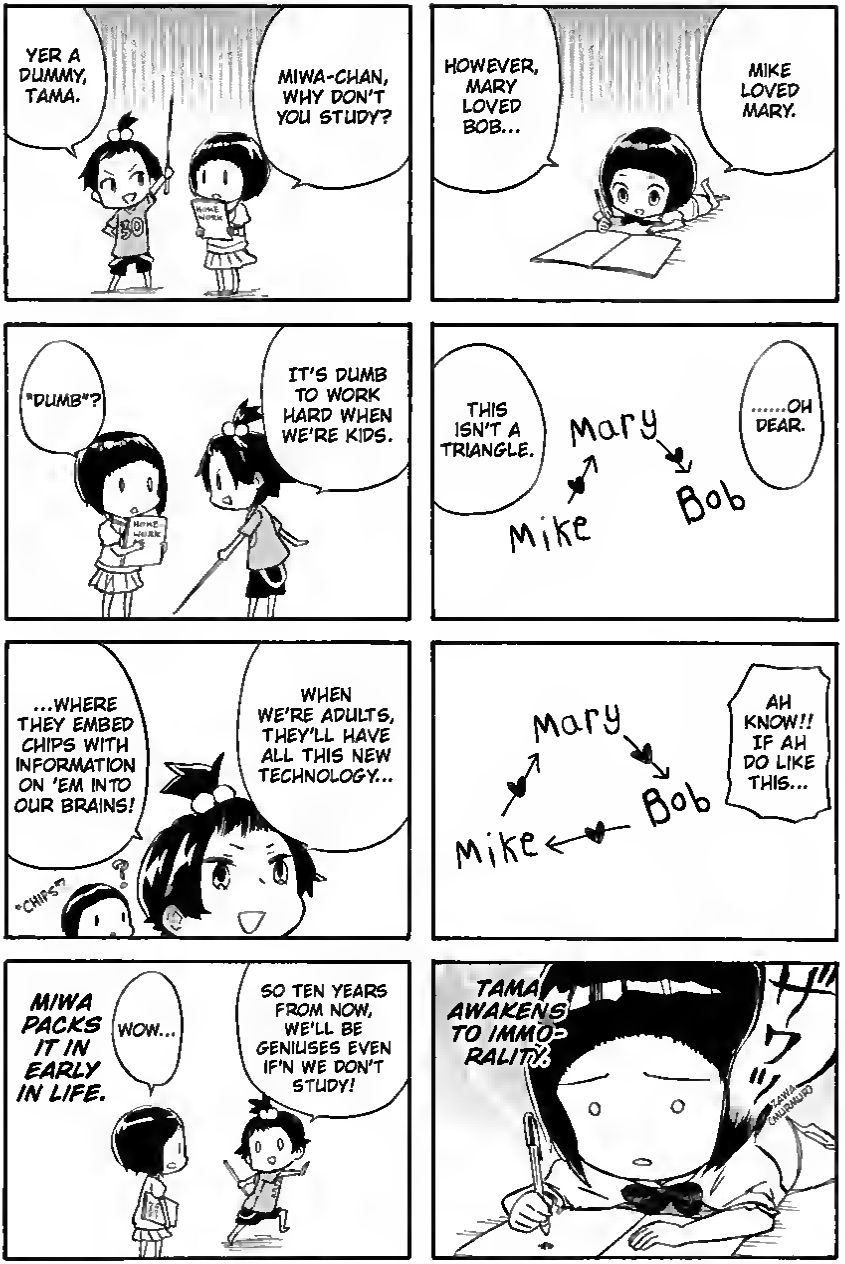
A Clash of White vs. Black!!!

Handa-kun 5

Check for the latest information on the public Twitter account ▶https://twitter.com/go_barakamon☆

MEANWHILE, IN

BARAKAMON


YER A DUMMY, TAMA.
MIWA-CHAN, WHY DON'T YOU STUDY?
HOWEVER, MARY LOVED BOB...
MIKE LOVED MARY.
"DUMB"?
IT'S DUMB TO WORK HARD WHEN WE'RE KIDS.
THIS ISN'T A TRIANGLE.
Mary
Mike
Bob
.....OH DEAR.
...WHERE THEY EMBED CHIPS WITH INFORMATION ON 'EM INTO OUR BRAINS!
"CHIPS"?
WHEN WE'RE ADULTS, THEY'LL HAVE ALL THIS NEW TECHNOLOGY...
Mary
Mike
Bob
AH KNOW!! IF AH DO LIKE THIS...
MIWA PACKS IT IN EARLY IN LIFE.
WOW...
SO TEN YEARS FROM NOW, WE'LL BE GENIUSES EVEN IF'N WE DON'T STUDY!
TAMA AWAKENS TO IMMORALITY.
ZAHA ONUMAJO

Handa-kun 4

Satsuki Yoshino

Translation/Adaptation: Krista Shipley, Karie Shipley
Lettering: Lys Blakeslee

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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